

THE HONGKONG WEEKLY PRESS

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LV.]

HONGKONG, MONDAY, 16TH JUNE, 1902.

No. 24

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Epitome of the Week, &c.	413
Leading Articles:	
Russian Politics, Internal and External	444
Civil Government for the Philippines	445
The Shantung and Other Railways	445
Unofficial Representation on the Legislative Council	446
Messrs. Chadwick's and Simpson's Report	446
The King's Park	447
Hongkong Sanitary Board	448
Coronation Celebrations in Hongkong	448
Peace Thanksgiving Services	449
Housing of Population in Hongkong	450
The Health of Hongkong	451
Dr. Hartigan's Departure	451
A Constable's Adventure in the New Territory	451
Curious Affair in Honan	452
The Shantung Railway	452
The Siamese Question	452
Development of Formosa	453
Macao	453
Canton	453
Swatow	453
Pakhoi	454
Peking	454
Foochow	455
Northern Notes	455
Correspondence	455
Supreme Court	457
Coronation Celebration Fund	457
Royal Hongkong Golf Club	458
Troubles on the Hupeh-Hunan Border	458
Peace in South Africa	458
The Position in Manchuria	458
Hongkong and Port News	459
Commercial	460
Shipping	461

BIRTHS.

On the 22nd April, at Shanghai, the wife of HUGO MARQUARDT, of a daughter.

On the 31st May, at 45, Szechuen Road, Shanghai, the wife of C. P. AILAN, of a son.

On the 3rd June, at Shanghai, the wife of H. COUETENAY, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

On the 21st May, at Christ Church, Ningpo, HARALD KLIENE, to ELSA MARGARETHA HENRIETTE JENCKEL.

DEATHS.

On the 27th May, at the General Hospital, Singapore, J. RICHMOND of Messrs. Stevenson & Co., Manila, aged 36 years.

On the 1st June, at 7, Park Lane, Shanghai, AGNES, the wife of JOHN LENNON, aged 40 years.

On the 2nd June, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, MAY BIANIA, daughter of OSBORNE and SALOME MIDDLETON, aged 17 years.

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The Straits Government has declared Canton infected with plague.

Russia is sending to Port Arthur four guns, each of 68½ tons and forty feet in length.

Lo Feng-luh, late Chinese Minister in London, sailed from Southampton on the 5th inst.

The Japanese Coronation squadron, consisting of the cruisers *Asama* and *Takasago*, has arrived at Devonport.

Prince Tsai Cheng has paid a visit to Frogmore for the purpose of placing a wreath on Queen Victoria's tomb.

The Eastern China Railway Co. has made arrangements with the International Sleeping Car Co., making it possible to travel from Dover to Port Arthur in fifteen days.

L'Echo de Chine understands that M. Ratard, Consul-General of France at Shanghai, has been chosen by the Government for conducting with H.E. Sheng the negotiations relating to the new Customs tariffs.

Count Matsukata, in an interview with a representative of the Paris *Figaro*, declared that he was negotiating no loan. The Emperor of Japan had instructed him to inform President Loubet of his sentiment of friendship.

The subsidy for the new Dutch steamship line to Japan is £312,500 for fifteen years. Nothing is known as to the capital of the projected company, which is probably a combination of the existing Netherlands Indies companies.

Senator Maciyber (so the name appears in our telegram) has introduced a Bill in the U.S. Senate to devote \$275,000 (gold) to the purchase of a site for the buildings of a permanent exhibition of American manufactures and raw material at Shanghai.

The Kaiser has telegraphed to the German Secretary of the Navy that he is delighted to learn that the Shantung Railway has been opened as far as Weihai (details of which will be found in another column), and that he hopes that this railway will contribute to the opening of further markets for German enterprise and industry in the Tsintau hinterland.

It is reported in Shanghai mandarin circles that, during the absence of Sir J. Mackay, the British Commercial Commissioner, from Shanghai during the hot weather, the interval will be taken advantage of by the Chinese and Japanese Commissioners to negotiate the commercial treaty between the two countries. Sir J. Mackay will spend the summer months in Japan.

The Paris correspondent of the London *Daily News* says that the French are likely to quarrel with Corea, and suggests that this is why the Russian Press regrets the arrangements made by Lord Kitchener. The correspondent adds that Russia would like France to act with quick decision, but not to "plunge utterly." The danger, it is added, lies in Japan backing up Corea against France and in the provisions of the Anglo-Japanese treaty.

It is officially stated (our London correspondent telegraphs) that a clause has been agreed upon in the Special Commissioners' treaty whereby China undertakes to remove within two years the artificial obstructions to the navigation of the Canton River.

When Renter telegraphed on the 6th inst. that M. Doumergue has been appointed Colonial Minister in M. Combes's Cabinet, many took this to be a mistake for M. Doumer, of Indo-Chinese fame. However, the Havas telegram shows that the new minister is M. Doumergue, an old opponent of M. Doumer.

On the morning of the 28th ult. the body of a man who belonged to the Japanese battalion which was lost in the snow near Aomori was found. The discovery of this body completes the list of the missing men. All the bodies have now been recovered, after the lapse of a hundred and twenty-one days since the search was commenced.

Northern native papers state that, owing to the unceasing impeachment of Viceroy Yuan Shikai by members of the Censorate for his stringent measures in putting down the late outbreaks in South Chihli, the Grand Council has, under instruction from the Empress Dowager, sent Chao Er-hsun, Provincial Treasurer-designate of Shansi, as special deputy, to the scene of the late disturbances to investigate the case. Chao Er-hsun was received in audience by the Emperor and Empress Dowager at Peking on the 2nd inst.

In connection with our Shanghai telegram which we published in last week's issue, the following from the *N.C. Daily News* is of interest:

— The commercial enterprises of Viceroy Chang in Wuchang and Hanyang, namely H.E.'s cotton spinning and weaving mills, hemp factory and silk-factory, do not seem to have prospered very much, for they are now offered for lease to Chinese merchants at the rental of Tls. 110,000, per annum. The capital expended on the above amounted to Tls. 3,160,000, of which there is still owing some Tls. 400,000, or so, to Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg & Co., which the lessees have to repay in instalments, according to an agreement between that firm and the Hup-hu officials. The length of the proposed lease will be for twenty years.

In the course of an article dealing with Germany's aims in Shantung *L'Avenir du Tonkin* says: — It is obvious that Germany is carrying out a very energetic policy in this province. On the other hand the persistency with which she keeps her troops at Tientsin and Shanghai can have no other effect than to facilitate the undertakings which she is engaged in in the hinterland of Kiaochau. It is impossible not to think under the circumstances that she is playing an analogous rôle to that which she has played in every other case, in remaining independent for the time of English policy, and of the policy of those parties against whom the last-named country is working. Germany is thus paying dearly for her benevolent neutrality, and the exceptional tolerance which she enjoys in Shantung — where she is pursuing a policy quite contrary to her arrangement of October, 1900, with England relative to the integrity of China and the maintenance of the open door — and one is bound to believe that she is playing once more the rôle of "odd man out" between the Anglo-Japanese Alliance and Russia.

HONGKONG WEEKLY PRESS

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD, CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVALS OF MILLS.

The French mail of the 16th May arrived, per M. M. steamer *Sydney*, on the 14th June (29 days); and the American mail of the 9th May arrived, per T. K. K. steamer *Nippon Maru*, on the 14th June (36 days).

RUSSIAN POLITICS: INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL.

(Daily Press, 9th June.)

Even the foul bureaucracy that has superseded the Crown in Russia must feel that it has not come with any semblance of honour out of recent events in China, and that Russia, though apparently successful, is really in a far worse position than at the commencement of the troubles. She has, in fact, in putting her full force forward in Eastern Asia, made the mistake so frequent in nations in her stage of civilisation of exposing her weakness; and rotten, as she is at the core in Europe, she has ceased to be a terror to the continent. The occupation of England in South Africa was in the usual fashion of nations of her genius taken occasion of to make the most unblushing encroachment recorded in the annals of even Russia, and the effect has been to show the utter weakness and hollowness of her pretended power. Of one thing she has assured the world, and that is that it was from no feeling of right nor consciousness of justice that she has retired her pretensions in Manchuria, but from the knowledge that she has already overgrown her power, and that any strain on her internal resources would result in the entire collapse of the whole ill-assorted fabric. The measures being taken by the Government in Europe to restore confidence amongst its own people are singularly fatuous, and show the utter ineptitude of the crowd who have assumed the direction of government. Last year the then Minister of Instruction M. BOGOLIEPOFF, whose reactionary conduct had incensed the entire of the rising classes in the universities, was murdered. Although the better disposed classes in Russia as elsewhere are quite aware of the ill effects on the cause of good government of a policy of assassination, it is acknowledged, even by the reactionaries, that personally there could be no sympathy with the victim, who had outraged in his conduct of his office every principle of right and justice. In his place, as a sort of sop, General VANNOVSKY was appointed to the post, and General VANNOVSKY would, it is acknowledged, have willingly done all that lay within his power to redress the acknowledged evils that were making Russian universities a byword. But VANNOVSKY was only a puppet, and it very soon became evident that he was intended to be nothing else. The university students had hitherto borne the brunt of the contest with the Government, and the Government had flattered itself that all that was necessary to be done to keep under the aspirations of the nation, and continue to exercise its own ill-savoured authority, was to suppress the students, who were quietly and without trial of any sort removed, either by private execution, or by being sent wholesale to Siberia. But even students, as the Government began to find to its cost, had not only relations and friends amongst their own class, but had sympathisers amongst the nation at large. A demonstration was accordingly organised, and as the *Official Messenger* itself acknowledges: "At the same time these leaders, recognising how powerless the students were to realise by themselves the objects of the movement, entered into intimate relations with the existing revolutionary groups and clubs. Animated by the same spirit, they carried on an illegal propaganda in the community and amidst the workmen of the large towns." One of the results was calling a demonstration intended to be peaceable to take place in the streets of

Moscow on the 22nd February. The meeting was of course a challenge to Government, but might have been diverted by a little tact into a demonstration in favour of order; but no such feelings actuated the wretched faction which has usurped the functions of Government, and whose main weapon is the knout. A band of savage Cossacks was let loose amongst the unarmed crowd, and by such measures the cause of "order" was attempted to be vindicated. Furthermore, without any pretence at legal form, and solely on the responsibility of the "Government" itself, wholesale arrests were made amongst all classes. The *Official Messenger* acknowledges 537 members of the university, 111 students of other establishments, and 34 besides of both sexes and of various ages. No pretence of any legal form in these arrests was made, nor any attempt to enquire into the offences charged, and as a consequence many of those arrested were totally innocent and had merely been arrested on the information of unknown spies. As the trouble of sending these regiments of prisoners to Siberia appalled even a Russian Government, it was resolved to divide them over the Empire, those whom the chiefs of the reaction thought most dangerous being condemned to go to Archangel, where in 65 degrees north latitude and in temporary prisons run up for the purpose it was hoped that the frosts of that inclement region would soon extinguish the sparks of revolutionary ardour still existing. As a natural reply to this lawless proceeding on the part of the bureaucracy the others replied by the assassination of the man whom they conceived the most concerned in these reactionary measures of brutality, the Minister of the Interior, M. SPIAGUINE. Illegality has been met by illegality, and the assassination of this outrager of law and order by the only tribunal in Russia's present position possible must unfortunately be held to cover a political crime with the *icitat* of martyrdom. Once lighted, the torch of revolution, especially when, as in Russia, founded on the outrage by a corrupt government of all that is right, is difficult to extinguish; and it is unfortunately owing to these last outrages doubtful if the time for amendment have not already passed. At all events, from north to south, Russia is in a state of revolution, either open or sangundering.

Whatever in the Far East may be our interest in these movements in Russia herself, it is chiefly in their influence on Asiatic politics that we are momentarily concerned. Hitherto the Asiatic policy of Russia has been one of sheer bluff, and her previous successes, as she is well aware, have been due neither to the skill of her generals nor to the courage of her troops; both probably have been as bad as ever existed in a state pretending to civilisation. She at the beginning of her march came across nations in still more paltry condition than herself, and gradually and almost imperceptibly acquired the art of terrorising her weaker and occasionally more corrupt neighbour. China had for centuries been living by the same arts, and when she found that Russia was the more able of the two, she for a time collapsed. Thus in 1900 the contest in the Far East assumed the character of a gigantic game of poker. Russia was calculating in all this that Great Britain, with her hands occupied in South Africa, was out of the game, and probably the other Powers shared the opinion with her. They were, however, better informed than Russia, and quietly found means to hedge or go out of the game. Speaking of a

recent agreement with Persia to erect a telegraph line from Kushan to the frontier of Baluchistan, no great thing in itself, the *Novoe Vremya* thus delivers itself:— "It seemed that the South African war, which was employing all the forces of Great Britain, would influence the internal situation of that country and fetter its liberty of action. It turns out, however, that this peculiar state of things does not in any way prevent British diplomacy from achieving very substantial triumphs, and that the diplomacy of Great Britain has decidedly and greatly increased in Persia during the last six months; and," (it significantly adds) "in the East, prestige is everything."

Without laying too much stress on this admission of failure from a competitor evidently merely intended to draw off attention from the more important point of Russia's game in the Far East, it is safe to recognise that even in her strongest point she has had to acknowledge failure. It has in fact been brought home to her rudely that the time has come when Great Britain is likely to ask her to show her hand, and at this unpleasant moment comes the confession that she is at heart as rotten as was France at the period of her revolution. Like Russia, France in the consciousness of her ill-doing tried to turn her subjects' attention from misdeeds at home by pointing to triumphs abroad, but the very steps she took resulted in her own political extinction; so in the present case not the least noticeable feature is the evident fear with which Russia regards Japan's challenge to show her hand. The fact that England's hands are at last free must increase the dissatisfaction of the Russian Government that she has by her own folly allowed her shame to become a byword. The conclusion of the peace in South Africa, though it may hasten the progress of events in Eastern Asia, has already been pretty well discounted; and Russia may be prepared for the future to take her position in the rank from which she never should have been permitted to emerge. Is it too much to attribute the resignation of M. WALDECK-ROUSSEAU to a feeling that the policy of putting her dependence on a rotten reed is beginning already to dawn on France, and that she perceives that her sacrifices are likely to result in discredit to herself? Few who have watched the French Minister's career will deny him the possession of rare gifts of statesmanship. In other quarters he has distinctly raised the position of his country from a state approaching chaos, and has won the respect, if not always the affection, of her neighbours; nor was he the originator of the policy of subjection to Russia, which even France is beginning to realise as compromising her position in Europe. Now that Russia has declared herself the enemy of civilisation, it was hardly conceivable that France should any longer back up the policy of reaction so opposed to all her own dearest traditions; and it may well be that this was the motive that eventually led him to resign office after the country had unreservedly given him in the recent elections her entire confidence. At all events the motive put forward, that of ill-health, is one that does not often sway statesmen in the full career of success.

The British community at Macao originally intended to hold a dinner and have some fireworks in honour of Coronation day, but it has now been decided instead of this to give a ball and supper to which the leading residents of Macao will be invited.

CIVIL GOVERNMENT FOR THE PHILIPPINES.

(*Daily Press*, 10th June.)

The announcement just issued from the United States War Department at Washington with reference to the government of the Philippine Islands has been led up to by the increasingly pacific nature of the news in the Manila papers. The last number to hand of the *Manila Times*, for instance, states that the 13th U.S. Infantry and a squadron of the 3rd Cavalry were preparing for transportation to America and that the 24th Infantry was notified of its probable departure homeward in July. Another very significant sign was that the "mosquito fleet," the little gunboats which have done such excellent service in subduing the insurrection in the Archipelago, are being disarmed and that two of the boats will be handed over to the Quartermaster, no doubt to be sold at once. There has been a remarkable decline in the number even of small engagements in the islands of late, and the natives concerned have been the savager element of the heterogeneous Filipino population. The surrender of General MALVAR in Luzon had a very marked effect, as it was anticipated at the time, on the languishing insurrection, and this name seems hardly applicable any longer to the strife now remaining. The Moros, it is true, are in arms against the United States troops and declare their intention of never yielding. But it must be remembered that the Moros never submitted to the Spanish and have clung to their independence throughout the history of the Philippines. They did not until recently show hostility toward the new rulers of the Philippines, but that is capable of ready explanation, for the United States authorities had not attempted to interfere with them.

The news from Washington is to the effect that the Acting Governor at Manila, Mr. WRIGHT, and General CHAFFEE both agree that the Philippines are now ripe for civil government, the Moros alone excepted. Obviously, without this exception, the despatch would have stultified itself. The United States authorities at Manila could not have claimed that the fierce Mohammedan tribesmen were prepared to settle down as peaceful citizens without discrediting the rest of their announcement. We cannot doubt that it will be many years yet before those "irreconcilables" of the Philippines submit to a state of government which they have never tolerated yet. But with regard to the other inhabitants of the Archipelago it is satisfactory that it now seems possible to confer on them the rights of civil government. The experiment will be watched with the greatest interest, and perhaps by some with hardly charitable expectations of failure. We believe, however, that the United States are entering upon their task with great earnestness, and if only they can keep the wrong class of men from exploiting the new colonial service the difficulty of ruling a tropical empire should not be beyond them. Disquieting rumours have been circulated about the manner in which the customs service is treating its duties, but the attempt to grapple with this danger seems without doubt sincere. It is needless to say that a transference to the Philippines of the corrupt administration which disgraces many American cities would lead to signal failure in the government of the islands. Such consummate folly fortunately seems remote. An excellent beginning in the work of converting the Philippines to order has been made in the effort to get rid of the religious or

rather ecclesiastical difficulties by direct treatment with the Vatican. The Roman Catholics' rights are to be respected, while in return the prelates of that Church in the Philippines will co-operate in the reform of abuses in connection with the terribly vexed question of the Friars, which contributed not a little to the downfall of the Spanish dominion over the Filipinos. If this and kindred questions can be put out of the way satisfactorily, the task of administration must be immeasurably simplified.

Nevertheless, though the way to just rule in the Philippine Islands seems growing steadily clearer, the day when, as President ROOSEVELT recently hinted, self-government can be granted to the Filipinos looks as yet very distant. We spoke of this possibility briefly last week, when we stated why this was so. Since there is no indication that there will be within the comparatively near future a majority in the United States willing to allow the Philippines to go the way of Cuba, it is hardly profitable to discuss the question. The important point, which cannot but attract attention now, is the manner in which civil government administered by the United States will be received by the Filipinos.

THE SHANTUNG AND OTHER RAILWAYS.

(*Daily Press*, 11th June.)

The Shanghai papers just to hand contain some items not only of unusual interest but also of unusual importance to all persons concerned in the development of Chinese resources. The opening of the Shantung Railway as far as Weihsien on the 1st inst. is an event of the first importance to the German Colony of Kiaochau, and should excite attention in all parts of China. The proceedings seem to have aroused keen interest among the natives, and the officials at Weihsien also made a demonstration in honour of the occasion. It is true that the Governor of Shantung was not present, but he sent as his representative Mr. KU HUNG-MING (known here better as HONG BENG KAW) and the Chinese Director of Railways the Taotai HUNG, under whose auspices a successful banquet was held at the Hotel Krippendorff, when the room was decorated with silk banners and a Chinese band disengaged sweet (?) music between the courses. Many congratulatory telegrams were received, and there were general felicitations. The correspondent narrating the event says that the Chinese all along the route are now very friendly towards the railway, and that beyond a few small thefts of building material, which were severely punished, no attempt has been made to damage the line or rolling stock. The Chinese employees of the Railway Company are also said to have acquired a good grip of their work, and to be doing their duties admirably, showing plainly their ability to handle the growing traffic.

It is not only that the traffic of the railway is steadily increasing, and the prejudice of the natives being dissipated, however; an equally important factor in the introduction of this great reforming agent into the Central Kingdom is the circumstance that by its agency the mineral treasures of the province of Shantung will shortly be effectively tapped. From the station of Chang-lan-yuan a side track has been laid to Fangtze, where are valuable coal deposits, said by mining experts to be of good quality, and these mines can be profitably worked as soon as the means of transport are provided. It is also intended to push on the railway from Weihsien to Tsingchowfu (a distance of 250 kilometres)

as rapidly as possible, and when this is completed—which it is expected will be done by the end of the current year—the construction of two more arms, one to Tsinan-fu, the capital, and the other to the Poshan coal-fields, will be commenced without delay. When this development takes place, Germany's grasp on Shantung will be materially strengthened. Kiaochau will then probably become a coal-exporting port, and the vessels of the German squadron will have a regular supply of coal within their reach without going to a foreign port for it, without the necessity of importing it from either Europe or Japan. This will obviously be a great advantage to the German Navy, and it will give their mercantile shipping the opportunity of coaling at the German colony, where now it does not pay them to call. The Germans are to be congratulated on their foresight, enterprise, and energy.

Meantime the Japanese have been at work in Central China, labouring to prepare the foundations of business enterprise in this empire. It seems, according to a correspondent of the *N.C. Daily News*, that at Shihhuihao, the reversible terminus of the iron-mine railway in Hupeh, a large new Japanese steamer of some 3,300 tons has been loading iron ore for Japan, whither a large quantity is now being exported from this mine. The ore is shipped to Wakamutsu, in Japan, where it is smelted more successfully than at the Han-yang Iron-works. This is quite a new departure and shows great enterprise on the part of the Japanese. There are no ironstone deposits in Japan of any importance, but the Japanese are none the less determined to manufacture iron for themselves, and they have commenced the import of the ore from Hupeh on a large scale, this steamer having been built for the purpose, and another vessel being now in course of construction for the same business. These enterprises are very laudable and worthy of imitation. Why, we should like to know, is nothing being done by British capitalists to lay a railway from Kowloon to Canton through the New Territory, or a line from Kowloon to Waichow-fu on the East River? Why has no effort been made to tap the coal mines in the Two Kwang and bring down the produce to Hongkong? Why has no attempt been made from Weihaiwei to open up the hinterland of that port and develop a trade? We are aware that some years ago there was a great deal of talk about a railway from Kowloon to Canton, but it all ended in a more or less trial survey and nothing was actually done. The result to-day is that German, Belgian, Russian and American capitalists are constructing the railways of China, and they will no doubt also exploit her mines. The spirit of enterprise among British capitalists is either moribund, or the protection afforded to such ventures by their Government is so inadequate that they may almost be said to have thrown up the sponge and retired from the field. Is there no one among the prophets who can preach to them of the danger of procrastination and the certainty of commercial decadence following such timidity?

The *Kobe Chronicle* says:—The Rev. W. S. Ament, who will be remembered in connection with the looting charges made against the missionaries during the Boxer uprising, is returning to China from the States, having arrived at Yokohama on the *Nippon Maru* on Tuesday. From this it would appear that the American Board Mission, notwithstanding Mark Twain's exposure, considers the looting that took place justified. It is a nice position for a Board that claims to be extending morality as well as religion.

UNOFFICIAL REPRESENTATION ON THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

(*Daily Press*, 7th June.)

The occurrence, on one afternoon, of two elections of Unofficial Members of the Legislative Council calls attention to a point in the constitution of that Council which most of us are apt to forget, or perhaps rather have never troubled to consider. By the rules of the constitution of our Legislative Council, this body consists of both Official and Unofficial Members. The Official Members are the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor (if any), the Senior Military Officer, the Colonial Secretary, Attorney-General, and Colonial Treasurer, and such other persons holding offices in the Colony, and not exceeding three in number at any one time, as may be appointed. The Unofficial Members number six, of whom the Governor nominates four, including one member at least of the Chinese community. The other two Unofficial Members are elected by the Chamber of Commerce and the Justices of the Peace respectively, as we were reminded on Thursday, when representatives of these two bodies were elected, one to fill a temporary vacancy and the other for the normal term of office. We have now therefore on the Legislative Council, in addition to the Official Members, the following six gentlemen—Messrs. C. S. SHARP, C. W. DICKSON, HO KAI, WEI A YUK, R. SHEWAN, and G. W. F. PLAYFAIR. Now the question suggests itself: What is the function of the Unofficial Members on the Council? Obviously, it will be said, to represent the civil community of Hongkong on the board which assists the Governor to rule this Colony. Then a second question may be put: Do the Unofficial Members so represent the civil community? Where in that case, we have often heard the query made, are the ratepayers represented? There is no wish on the part of those who ask to disparage in any way the present Unofficial Members, but by the very facts of their appointment by the Governor or election by limited bodies they cannot directly speak on behalf of the tax-paying community in general, which contributes so much to the welfare of the community. As is well known, it was not without a struggle that such representation of the community as now exists in the Legislative Council was gained. Yet it cannot be said that the amount obtained is satisfactory. More than seven years ago we wrote in these columns:—“The weak point about the ‘unofficial element in Hongkong is that it is not sufficiently representative. What measure of representation we have is better than none at all, but it is altogether inadequate. The system of nomination results, not in representation of all interests, but in the undue representation of special interests.” These words can be repeated, practically unchanged, at the present moment. By this pretence at representation of the community we have merely arrived at anomaly. To-day German, American, and other non-British subjects have no small share in electing one member to the Legislative Council of this British Colony, whereas the British ratepayer who is neither a member of the Chamber of Commerce nor a Justice of the Peace is absolutely unrepresented. The Chinese community has at the moment two officially nominated champions and has a share in electing the only two members who depend on suffrage. We do not know whether it is intended to continue the nomination of two Chinese members—double the

stipulated minimum representation—or not, but expectation runs that way. No one will contest the right of the Chinese to adequate representation in the Legislative Council of Hongkong, but while there is no delegate at all of the British ratepayers the Chinese could not be considered ill-treated, in comparison, if they had but one voice in the Council. In our correspondence columns yesterday Mr. TSE TSAN TAI looked forward to the day when the Chinese community would ask for the privilege of electing their own members to the Legislative Council. Every suggestion at all approaching municipal government has up to now been sternly frowned upon by both home and Colonial authorities, and the day seems distant when even adequate representation of the community in the Council will be granted. In 1895, when the Secretary of State for the Colonies was meditating on the advisability of adding two Unofficial Members to the Council, we wrote:—“We take it for granted that the two new members will be elected by the ratepayers on a similar franchise to that on which the Unofficial Members of the Sanitary Board were elected.” Unfortunately we are still waiting for such a state of affairs.

MESSRS. CHADWICK'S AND SIMPSON'S REPORT.

(*Daily Press*, 12th June.)

We publish to-day in another column the more important parts of a document which is the outcome of the agitation that a little over a year ago called attention to the bad sanitary state of this Colony. Though complaints against existing evils had been constantly made for long before, it was an article that appeared in these columns on the 16th May, 1901, over the signature of “Scrutator,” which, as our senior evening contemporary at the time expressed it, “stirred up the sluggish waters of public interest” and brought to the surface some of the old local grievances. When it was found, as a result of this letter and two subsequent letters from the same pen, that the mass of residents were really prepared to do more than merely talk to one another about these grievances, Dr. HARTIGAN and the writer of the “Scrutator” articles took it in hand to organise a committee of representative Hongkong men, and in June this committee, of which Mr. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR was elected the chairman and Mr. A. CUNNINGHAM (“Scrutator”) was the honorary secretary, was able to draw up the petition to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, which, after having been more numerously signed than any petition in this Colony's history, was delivered on the 25th June to the Colonial Secretary for transmission home. In answer to this petition, which was supported by a request from H. E. the Governor for an enquiry into the state of sanitation in Hongkong, the home authorities sent out Mr. OSBEEZ CHADWICK and Professor W. J. SIMPSON. The report of these experts, which now lies before the public, deals with the question of the housing of the population of Hongkong, and, taken in conjunction with their previously published reports and recommendations, is a complete vindication of the agitation of 1901. At the termination of the present document Messrs. CHADWICK and SIMPSON express the belief that if the Government can secure the adoption of the draft Bill which they have drawn up embodying their various recommendations, the Colony will possess an Ordinance which will gradually secure a great improvement in its general sanitary conditions, and will lead to the suppression

of those diseases which are dependent upon overcrowding and insanitary conditions for their propagation. There is still wanting, before measures of improvement can be set on foot, the approval of the Government, but we do not see how this can be withheld, for our local rulers have admitted the necessity of altering present conditions radically and have consented to a heavy outlay of revenue on the salaries of the experts who have just completed their task. We prefer to believe that the Government will elect to face the task before it with courage and set out to redeem as far as possible the tremendous errors of its predecessors and its own little less serious mistakes.

Messrs. CHADWICK and SIMPSON trace the insanitary condition of Hongkong to overcrowding of houses on too small a space, to sanitary defects in their construction, and to overcrowding of the inhabitants in them, and they discuss these three subjects separately. These evils Dr. CLARK frequently alluded to. The overcrowding of houses is the result of the construction of narrow streets and lanes and insufficiency of back-yards and lanes—in other words to undue economy of space on the part of the builders, causing inadequate light and ventilation, or even none at all in the case of back-to-back houses. Houses, like individuals, the report says, require a certain amount of space to themselves to be healthy. This rule was disregarded in the past, and even in the new localities, as in Kowloon, though great improvements have been effected, yet the separation is not sufficient to prevent the areas when completely built over bearing a resemblance, in a minor degree, to the older insanitary areas. We quote in our extracts from the report one example of overcrowding of houses under the old regulations, where no less than 85 per cent. of the total area is roofed over. In another example the height of certain houses is shown to be nearly seven times the width of the open space in the rear, whereas it should not be more than twice at the most. The examples, too, of excessive crowding under existing regulations are glaring. In one Inland Lot over 80 per cent. of the ground is covered with buildings, and if the area of a private lane be excluded, not more than four and a half per cent. is devoted to open yards. In another case 83 per cent. of the area is built over and less than two per cent. devoted to back-yard. Another Inland Lot consists entirely of new houses, thirty-six in number, but, says the report, “it is only another example on a small scale of the insanitary areas that can be constructed, even when all the houses are new, under the existing regulations, with narrow streets and lanes, and too many houses crowded together.” This is a striking comment on the present regulations.

But a still more damning criticism is made of the sanitary defects in the design of Chinese houses. By some gradual process of evolution, Messrs. CHADWICK and SIMPSON say, the Chinese tenement houses in Hongkong, differing in style from the European and also from the ordinary Chinese houses in Canton, etc., have taken on the worst features of both kinds of houses and none of their best. Few will dispute this who have inspected the tenement houses of the Colony. The curious part, moreover, is that the newer houses are often worse than the old. “At one time,” we quote the report—“the tendency was to build shallow houses from which sun-light and fresh air were excluded in consequence of other houses being built later in too close proximity to them.” An

time has gone on the houses have become "generally deeper and deeper, until there are being erected on the Praya back-to-back buildings of from 75 to 90 feet each in depth with an extra ten feet of verandah in each encroaching on the public street." The report goes very fully into the question of back-yards and kitchen. In one example cited it is shown that notwithstanding the provisions of a backyard to each house, what has come about is practically back-to-back buildings, which resolve themselves into three blocks of buildings, two of which are the dwelling-houses, and the third the kitchens, forming a middle block separated from the other by narrow spaces called back-yards. The houses on both sides are rendered insanitary by the intervening stories of kitchen-buildings. Back-lanes, as the report points out, situated behind kitchen-buildings in the rear of back-yards do not light and ventilate the dwelling house. The type of house showing improvement in the right direction, which is to be found in one part of Hunghom has kitchens attached to and forming part of the house, not built in the back-yard so as to shut out air and light from the house itself. With such insanitary kitchens too must go, if possible, all basements, and all verandahs and balconies encroaching on the public way. It is looked on almost as a right, the report remarks, that builders should construct in a three or four-storied house two or three extra rooms at the expense of the Government, that is encroaching on Crown land. These verandahs lessen the width of the street and darken the rooms, especially on the lower floors. Behind the verandahs (which are really front rooms) the cubicle system renders the whole of the rooms, so-called, unhealthy and leads to overcrowding in its worst form, while the darkness, absence of fresh air, and overcrowding together render cleanliness impossible. Messrs. CHADWICK and SIMPSON mention designs for improved Chinese houses submitted by Mr. CHATHAM, Mr. DANBY, and Messrs. PALMER and TURNER, which show that the problem is not an insoluble one.

As we quote in another place the whole of the section of the report devoted to the subject of overcrowding within the houses, we need not refer to it further. We must leave the consideration of the proposed Bill for another occasion.

(*Daily Press*, 13th June.)

The summary of the draft Bill proposed by Messrs. CHADWICK and SIMPSON, as given in their report on the question of the housing of the population of Hongkong, which we published yesterday, is sufficiently full, perhaps, to render comment needless. Attention, however, may profitably be drawn to a few salient points. The proposers, it will have been seen, ask for a reference of the Bill to the Attorney-General for necessary legal alterations, but they deprecate indirectly any other changes. They have aimed at consolidating all the sanitary and building ordinances in this one Bill, citing the construction of the Imperial Public Health Act of 1875 and subsequent amending acts as precedent. That such a combination will prove useful not only to the official whose duty it is to see that the law is complied with, but also to the architects, is obvious.

Part I. of the Bill, dealing mainly with definitions, as the proposers explain, need not detain us, except to notice that it is proposed that there should be published an authorised list of qualified architects, engineers, etc.—a very necessary provision in view of some of the building work which

has been done in this Colony. Part II is a very important section, as it treats of the Public Health Administration and the Sanitary Board. The result of the adoption of Messrs. CHADWICK's and SIMPSON's Bill will be to increase further the staff in charge of the public health by the appointment of a Sanitary Commissioner, *ex-officio* Chairman of the Sanitary Board and Head of the Sanitary Department. The difficulty no doubt experienced by the framers of the draft Bill was to separate the duties of this new Commissioner and the Medical Officer of Health, who is still to be retained, though to preserve the statutory majority of unofficial members on the Board he is to cease to be a member and will attend meetings only as professional adviser and chief executive officer. We are not certain that this is a very happy arrangement, and Messrs. CHADWICK and SIMPSON admit their reluctance over the proposal owing to the invaluable services of Dr. CLARK. On the Sanitary Commissioner devolve the duties of dealing with all nuisances and defects of whatever nature, the Board still having the power of granting licenses, permits, exemptions, etc., of controlling the Sanitary Department's policy, and of advising the Government on sanitary affairs.

Into the technicalities of Parts III, IV, and V it is hardly possible to go here. What is the scope of the Bill can be gathered from the criticisms of the existing state of affairs which we published yesterday and the sketch of the Bill in the report itself. The framers have incorporated the provisions of the European Reservation Ordinance of 1888 with certain amendment of boundaries. Among other points Messrs. CHADWICK and SIMPSON urge the prohibition of ceilings outside the European quarter as a further protection against rats in the Chinese quarter. It may be remembered that some medical men last year spoke against ceilings anywhere in Hongkong. One of the greatest reforms in the Bill is the prohibition of all windowless cubicles in domestic buildings hereafter erected, which the two experts think no great hardship, and everyone, we think, will agree is necessary. Combined with stricter regulations as to the height and depth of buildings, the lot of the Chinese tenement-dwellers will be altered very much if such a Bill becomes law. The enforcement of the clause limiting the depth of buildings may occasionally necessitate the resumption of a portion of a building lot by the Crown, say the proposers, but in view of the insufficient width of many of the public streets in the Colony and the lack of open spaces this resumed land area will be utilised to increase the width of the public street or streets abutting on such lot or be reserved as an open space for the improvement of the neighbourhood. As to height, the proposers put the maximum at one and a half times the width of the street on which buildings front, and in the case of land not yet sold by the Crown advise that the height be only equal to the width.

The ideas of Messrs. CHADWICK and SIMPSON on the question of the resumption of insanitary property are well set forth in one of the paragraphs under the head of "Proposed Bill," which we published yesterday. The last sentence deserves particular attention—"The right of an owner of property to re-erect dwellings of an insanitary type, because his present dwellings are insanitary, should not be admitted." It is hardly creditable to the Colony that it is possible for such a sentence to be written, but unfortunately it is not

superfluous. With a section in "Conventions and Penalties" the draft Bill concludes. Though we are unable to criticise its legal and technical merits, we can commend it as an honest and genuine attempt to reform an intolerable state of affairs.

THE KING'S PARK.

(*Daily Press*, 14th June.)

We have not yet had the opportunity of referring to the announcement made on Wednesday evening by H.E. the Officer Administering the Government with regard to the permission granted by the Secretaries of State for the Colonies and for War that a public park should be opened at Kowloon. As was already known, and as Major-General Sir WILLIAM GASCOIGNE reminded his hearers on the Coronation Committee on Wednesday, the project of cutting the first sod during the Coronation ceremonies and preparing for a speedy opening of the park was only taken in hand a comparatively short time ago. In fact, His Excellency was, as he said, at times in despair whether permission could be obtained in time; we have good reason for saying that he personally worked his hardest to gain the assent of the home authorities, who have yielded before his energetic support of the wishes of the community. The Government deserves hearty congratulations on its achievement, and we are glad to see that it is in the term of office of Sir WILLIAM GASCOIGNE, once as he admits the "obstructionist" of the scheme, but latterly its warm supporter, that the consent of the two Secretaries of State has been obtained. But while congratulating the Government we must not forget the actual originator of the idea of a public park, "to whom," as His Excellency told the Coronation Committee, "the credit really of this scheme is due." We refer to Mr. CHARLES FORD, the Superintendent of the Botanical and Afforestation Department. It is now some two years ago that Mr. FORD first brought forward the plan of such a park, but it did not meet with the approval of the authorities, chiefly no doubt on account of military objections. The Hon. F. H. MAY, we believe, while Acting Colonial Secretary in the absence of the Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, took up the idea again and gave it his support, but it was not until the present Coronation year that the local authorities' consent was finally obtained, the Officer Commanding the Troops withdrawing his objections. To Mr. STEWART LOCKHART occurred the happy idea of calling the new park the King's Park and of holding the opening ceremony during the Coronation festivities, thus giving to Mr. FORD's scheme an appropriate finish but not of course rendering his credit for its original suggestion any the less. The result of the various contributions to the plan of the park is that Kowloon and the Colony in general will obtain an open space of about seventy acres which will serve both for recreation and for a future "lung" (as it is called) when the neighbourhood is fully built over. Not only will Hongkong be benefitted by the addition of another playground, but the suburb on the mainland will be preserved for the future, in one district at least, from one of the greatest evils which has affected the city of Victoria, namely, that of absolute congestion of houses.

The Roman Catholic Mission at Ningpo is reported to be obliterating the public road, over which there is a dispute in which the French Consul refuses to interfere.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Hongkong Sanitary Board was held on the 12th inst. in the Board Room. Present:—Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer of Health (President); Hon. F. J. Badeley, Captain Superintendent of Police; Dr. F. W. Clark, Medical Officer of Health; Colonel Hughes, R.A.M.C.; Mr. E. R. Hallifax, Mr. E. Osborne, and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (Secretary).

MEMORANDUM ON PLAGUE.

Further correspondence was laid on the table relative to Professor Simpson's Memorandum on Plague Prevention.

Mr. OSBORNE said that when he moved his resolution at the last meeting of the Board, he took it for granted that the Government would understand that in that paragraph relating to more thorough inspection of shipping would be mentioned the recommendations made by Prof. Simpson. However, to be more explicit, he begged to move the following: "That the Government be informed that a more thorough inspection of shipping will be ensured by the adoption of Prof. Simpson's recommendations that three or four boarding officers be appointed to board all ships and junks coming from the Chinese coast, the West River, and neighbourhood, not including the waters of the Colouy, and that unless a medical officer is carried, every such vessel should be visited by one of the port health officers before pratique is granted, if the boarding officer finds that there has been any sickness whatever, or any death during the voyage; and further, that the Canton and Macao passenger steamers should be encouraged to carry properly qualified native doctors during the first six months of each year, who would be required to report any case of sickness that may occur on board during the voyage, and to give facilities for the removal of such patient to hospital, thus avoiding the detention of the vessel for the visit of the boarding officer and the medical examination of the passengers."

The PRESIDENT seconded, and the resolution was agreed to unanimously.

BOARDING HOUSES.

The SECRETARY laid on the table draft Bye-laws re Licencing Regulations and Sanitary Maintenance of Boarding Houses.

Mr. OSBORNE suggested that the Government be asked to prohibit the licencing of boarding-houses in crowded portions of the town. By enforcing such prohibition, he was inclined to the opinion that they would effect some good in preventing overcrowding by forcing the people who lived in houses licenced by the Government, such as boarding-houses, opium-divans, laundries, bakeries, and such concerns, as far as possible—not altogether, perhaps—to the outskirts of the town.

Mr. HALLIFAX thought these people ought to be given some time before being made to move to other parts of the town.

Dr. CLARK—You mean additional houses, not those existing at present?

Mr. OSBORNE—I mean all.

At the request of Dr. CLARK, Mr. HALLIFAX informed the Board that the number of applications received for licences for these houses up till now amounted to 18, and that the number of places which had been used as emigration houses was 30. These were situated chiefly in West Point and in districts fairly easily accessible from the Canton steamer wharf.

Mr. OSBORNE consented to modify his resolution to the refusing of licences to new houses in the central portion of the town, and this was seconded by Dr. CLARK and carried unanimously.

PREVENTION OF EGRESS OF RATS

FROM DRAINS.

A letter was submitted from the Hon. Director of Public Works relative to the wire netting over the sewer and storm-water gratings and stating that large numbers of the gratings over the gullies were now left partly open to admit of sewerage and rain water finding its way into the drains. That being the case, the object of the grids of wire netting, which were recently fixed, was entirely frustrated. As the roads were being considerably damaged by the streams of water which, during heavy rainstorms, were unable to pass off by the gratings in consequence of the grids being choked with

leaves and refuse, he submitted that the grids be removed for the remainder of the rainy season at least.

Colonel Hughes minuted:—"Cannot the grids during heavy rain be kept clear of leaves and refuse by scavenging gangs. I am opposed to doing away with them."

Mr. E. Osborne minuted:—"The netting has had the effect of confining the rats to the drains as was, I think, proved by the large number of drowned rats found floating in the Harbour after the first heavy downpour and which had evidently come from the drains. If the netting were fixed hinged instead of being bound down they could be easily lifted when the rain falls. Damage to roads is a small matter compared with the plague."

Mr. OSBORNE mentioned that amongst the employers of the Wharf Godown Company there had not been a single case of plague this year, and this was a remarkable fact when it was remembered that they previously had had plague every year since 1894. The present immunity might have been mere coincidence but personally he believed that it was due to keeping rats away from the premises. With reference to the methods to be adopted for plague prevention Mr. Osborne, referring to the proposal to advertise in the Chinese newspapers, said that the people of the lower classes of Chinese were accustomed to certain methods and that the Board had better follow their methods, which was to advertise in great flaming colours.

The PRESIDENT said it was proposed to issue 2,000 placards in Hongkong and Kowloon.

Mr. OSBORNE thought that 50,000 would not be out of place.

Dr. CLARK agreed with Mr. Osborne in this respect and said that if they wished to reach the coolie class they must follow the methods by which the coolies were reached in their own country.

The suggestion was adopted.

PUBLIC HEALTH ORDINANCE.

In the absence of the Vice-President (the Hon. A. W. Brewin, Registrar-General), the PRESIDENT moved that a committee of the Board, consisting of the President, the Vice-President, and the Medical Officer of Health, be appointed with full powers to enforce the provisions made under Section 13 of the Public Health Ordinance of 1901.

The Hon. F. J. BADELEY seconded, and the motion was carried.

THE DEATH-RATE.

It was reported that the death-rate for the week ended 24th May was 24.0 per 1,000 of the population per annum, as compared with 33.1 in the previous week and 49.8 in the corresponding week of the preceding year.

CLOSING OF WELLS.

The Medical Officer of Health recommended the closing of wells at 146, Hollywood Road, On Wai Lane and Si Po Lane, 284, Queen's Road West, and 213, Hollywood Road.

The recommendations were approved.

THE VISITING GANGS.

The Medical Officer of Health reported for the information of the Board that seven house-to-house visiting gangs had been at work in the City since 16th May. Each gang consisted of a senior student of the College of Medicine, a British sapper, and a Chinese constable. On 16th May one of the gangs found a case of cholera in Wan Chai Road. On 17th May a body dead of plague was found at 121, First Street, and another dead body (not plague) was found opposite 6, New Street. On 22nd May a suspected case of plague was found at 214, Des Vieux Road. On 23rd May two bodies dead of plague were found, one at 4, Man Hing Lane, and the other at 5, Sun Wai Lane. On 31st May, a case of plague was found at 119, Second Street. On 3rd June a case of plague was found at 139, Third Street. On 6th June a suspected case of plague was found at 54, West Street.

PRINCE'S BUILDINGS.

An application by Messrs Leigh & Orange for permission to erect two additional urinals at Prince's Buildings was granted.

LIME-WASHING RETURNS.

The lime-washing returns for the week ended 7th June showed that 1,900 houses had been limewashed in the Western District out of a total of 3,018.

WATER ANALYSIS.

The Government Analyst (Mr. Frank

Browne) reported that he had analysed samples of water from the Tytam, Kowloon, and Pokfulum services and had found the water to be of excellent quality.

THE BOARD'S PLAGUE RETURNS.

With regard to the paragraph which appeared in Tuesday's *Daily Press* in connection with the death of one Pedro Delmaco, a Filipino, who was drowned whilst trying to swim ashore from the American revenue cutter *Skna*, but was certified to have died from plague, Mr. OSBORNE desired to know if it was the case that this was another of several mistakes made in the Sanitary Board plague returns.

Dr. CLARK replied that the case referred to was undoubtedly one of plague, as a well-marked bubo was found on the man's body when it was examined at the mortuary.

This was all the public business.

CORONATION CELEBRATIONS IN HONGKONG.

MEETING OF COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Coronation Committee was held on the 11th inst. in the Council Chamber, His Honour the Chief Justice (Mr. W. Meigh Goodman) presiding.

The CHIEF JUSTICE said he was sure they would all be pleased to hear that His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government had consented to come there that afternoon and make an announcement to them concerning a park, and His Excellency was only waiting for him to say that were ready to receive him and he would tell them the result of those strenuous endeavours to obtain a park for them at Kowloon. He was sure they would all be delighted to hear the details of that, and he was sure they would all find that in the future if they were given a park in the middle of Kowloon so that they might have practically a second Happy Valley on the other side of the water, it would be a very great boon to those who came after them. (Applause.)

His Excellency Major-General Sir W. J. Gascoigne then entered the Chamber and took the chair.

His EXCELLENCY said—Gentlemen, as I understood that this was likely to be the last meeting of the Coronation Committee, I thought I should like to come down, first of all because I thought it possible that some question might arise in which my presence would be a help. That was one reason why I wished to come, but my principal object in coming to-day was to tender you all my most sincere and heartfelt thanks for the kind way in which you have devoted yourselves to the labours of this Committee. All of you, I know, are very busy men indeed—the Chief Justice, with all his other work, and all the other members of the Committee; and yet you have thrown an amount of work and labour into this matter for which I cannot help expressing my most heartfelt thanks. Give us fine weather and I do no hesitate to say that I think we shall have a Coronation three days that will be worthy of Hongkong. I felt when I asked you all to do your best that you would do so, but I am bound to say that everything I have seen of the work you have thrown into it far exceeded my expectations. Gentlemen, I have another announcement to make; some of you, probably all, know about it already, but I thought it would be well perhaps to make a final announcement of the fact that we have been at last fortunate enough to get the permission of the Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Secretary of State for War to open a park at Kowloon. (Applause.) It is indeed a great subject for congratulation, for, as you all know, the matter was only taken in hand within a comparatively short time, and I had my moments of despair as to whether we should get permission in time. While I am on this subject, I should like to take the opportunity, which I shall also take when I have the honour of cutting the first sod, of mentioning that I have seen the names of many people connected with this scheme of a public park, but the gentleman to whom the credit really of this scheme is chiefly due is Mr. Ford. (Applause.) It is a scheme of a long time ago and I am bound to say, with every respect to you all, that when it came before me, I as the Officer Commanding,

threw it out, so that I, who have done my best now to bring it forward, was at one time the obstructionist of the scheme. I hope the park will be a great public boon and that the community will always remember Mr. Ford's name in connection with it. (Applause.) Before I leave, if there is any point at all in which I can be of any help or assistance, I shall be very glad indeed to give you all the help in my power. (Applause.)

THE CELEBRATIONS.

The CHIEF JUSTICE said he wished now to proceed to the real business of the Committee. They had drawn up an official programme. He would read out the programme and any matters that required elucidation could be discussed, and then when the programme, modified or unmodified, was approved by the General Committee, the sub-committees and the members of the Working Committee would feel that they had a mandate to carry out the programme. He did not know that it would be necessary to summon another meeting unless something unforeseen occurred before the celebrations actually took place. Going on to discuss the programme in detail, the Chief Justice said that the first question of all to be considered was whether the celebrations should be of two days' duration or should be extended out to three days. That was a matter upon which he should like to have an expression of the opinions of the members. As far as Government officials were concerned, His Excellency was prepared to stretch the two days into three, but there were large commercial and banking interests involved and he did not know whether it was desirable that Saturday also should be observed as a holiday, considering that Monday was, as he believed, mail day. He might mention that there was a distinction in the Public Holidays Ordinance between a public and a Bank Holiday. If thought convenient they could have either the one or the other. It had been suggested to him that if two days were proclaimed in the *Gazette* as public holidays they would be sufficient, and the Government would allow public servants not to come to duty on the Saturday; and then, of course, those gentlemen in the City who wished to keep Saturday as a holiday could do so. But there would be no compulsion upon any bank not to be open. Three holidays running might be an inconvenience for banking business.

Hon. C. S. SHARP thought that, so far as the banking and commercial interests were concerned, they were agreed that two days would be quite sufficient. It would be a matter of inconvenience to make the forenoon of Saturday a holiday. (Applause.)

The CHIEF JUSTICE, proceeding with his revision of the programme, said that with regard to the review of troops at the Happy Valley the provisional arrangements were that the rooms above the stables—those rooms generally occupied at the Races by private individuals and lunch parties—should be devoted to members of Council and Judges, members of Committee and some foreign Consuls—about 300 in all. The Grand Stand would be reserved for subscribers. Then there would be a large shed erected near the Grand Stand for the use of Europeans generally and another large shed further away open to Chinese.

Hon. C. S. SHARP asked if any accommodation were to be made for school children?

The CHIEF JUSTICE replied that that matter had not been considered, but would receive the attention of the Committee who were going down on Friday to make final arrangements.

Mr. W. DANBY asked whether any accommodation was being made so that Chinese could bring their wives and children?

The HON. SECRETARY (Mr. E. A. Hewett) said that the shed referred to by the Chief Justice would be available for that purpose. It was to be reserved for all well dressed Chinese. Mr. Fung Wa Chun's suggestion was that Chinese wearing long coats should be admitted.

The CHIEF JUSTICE, proceeding, remarked that the preliminary speeches before the presentation of the various addresses must necessarily be somewhat curtailed. It was proposed that there should be only a few preliminary remarks made by the persons presenting the addresses and that the addresses should then be presented and read. With regard to the arrangement for the conveyance of the public to the scene of the

cutting of the first sod at the King's Park in Kowloon, it had been at first suggested that there should be a pier erected so as to obviate the rather long journey from the landing stage to the park. Mr. Danby found, however, that such a pier would have to be 900 feet long, and if it should happen to be a wet day the people would get more wet there than on any other part of the journey. The only other difficulty would be in relation to rickshas, and Mr. Badley was going to see that there would be a proper supply at hand. Mr. Chatham would see to the erection of a short pier at the end of Austen Road. Perhaps Mr. Chatham would give them some information on this point.

Hon. W. CHATHAM stated that the proposal was that a landing be made at the place where the temporary V.R.C. premises are—at the west end of Austen Road—and that a supply of rickshas should be available from there to the place where the sod was to be turned. The distance was not great, and of course many would be able to walk such a short way. On the other hand the rickshas would be able to make the journey very quickly and to make a good many trips if the people came in reasonable time at all. That would obviate any trouble with regard to the great length of the pier. If the originally proposed landing were erected on the other side it would only effect a saving of a distance of about 1,000 feet, which was a very trifling matter. There would be a large shed erected at the scene of the ceremony for shelter, and the place would be very favourable for obtaining a view, being on an incline.

The CHIEF JUSTICE, referring next to the illuminations, said that, given good weather, there should be a fine display. One thing he wished specially to refer to was the illumination of the seaward side of the City Hall. He did not know exactly the position of the trustees and directors of that hall but he believed it was not a very remunerative investment and that they carried it on more out of a public spirit than for profit. Should any difficulties arise as to the illumination of this building he thought the General Committee would probably sanction paying for it out of the funds. It would be a pity if the seaward side of the hall were not to be illuminated when they were having the other illuminations on Queen's Buildings, which no doubt would be a very fine spectacle. He would ask that the Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer be authorised to arrange for any cost that might be incurred in that way. (Applause.)

The suggestion was unanimously adopted.

The CHIEF JUSTICE, continuing his remarks, said it was only that day that the Hon. Secretary had received a telegram from those who were making the medals for presentation to the sailors and police in the Colony; they said the medals would be ready for shipment three months from that date. Therefore the medals would not be here until October. Of course, it would have been easy to have obtained a medal that was ready made, but such a medal would have had no special significance or value in connection with Hongkong. The design sent home was a very nice one, having on one side a small picture of Hongkong and a junk on the sea in front of the Peak; it was distinctively local. The Committee were sorry that the medal could not be got in time, but there was no other way of getting it than the way they had adopted. Care would be taken that if the various regiments or ships were not here at the time, those medals would be sent in due course to the soldiers and sailors and others to whom they were to be given. The medals for the children would be here on the 29th, in time for distribution. (Applause.) After intimating that if the programme was considered satisfactory the Hon. Secretary would see that copies were sent to the Press and advertised for the information of the public, the Chief Justice thanked His Excellency for the great trouble he had taken in the matter. If they had not had at the head of the Colony at the present time a gentleman who represented not only the civil but the military authorities, it would have been impossible to get this park. By concentrating both of these forces and by taking the responsibility upon himself as he had done, His Excellency had obtained permission for the opening of the park, and to

that more than anything else they were indebted. As regarded the park, of course people would not expect that it could be made in a day, for that was impossible. Its construction would take place by degrees, and when it was completed it should be something of which the Colony could be proud.

THE SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The CHIEF JUSTICE, before the meeting dispersed, announced that the European subscriptions to date amounted to \$21,000 and that it was expected that the Chinese would total \$10,000 odd, making over \$30,000 altogether. (Applause.) In the event of there being no further meeting of the Committee, continued the Chief Justice, might he take it that the Hon. Secretary, the Working Committee and the Chairman had authority to do what was necessary in the matter and in the administration of the funds?

This was unanimously agreed to, and the meeting thereafter dispersed.

"GOD SAVE THE KING."

The following is the revised version of the National Anthem which will be sung at the Coronation ceremony:—

God save our gracious King,
Long live our noble King,
God save the King.
Send him victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us,
God save the King.

O Lord our God arise,
Scatter his enemies,
Make wars to cease.
Keep us from plague and dearth,
Turn Thou our woes to mirth,
And over all the earth,
Let there be peace.
Thy choicest gifts in store,
On him be pleased to pour;
Long may he reign,
May he defend our laws,
And ever give us cause,
To sing with heart and voice
God save the King.

PEACE THANKSGIVING SERVICES.

In St. John's Cathedral on the 8th inst. a special thanksgiving service was held in respect of the peace in South Africa. There was a very large congregation. The military were fully represented; among those present being His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, Sir W. J. Gascoigne, K.C.M.G., and suite. So numerous was the attendance of the officers that part of the chancel had to be put at their disposal. Lady Gascoigne was also present. All through the service was of a most impressive description. The preacher was the Rev. J. W. Southam, who delivered an eloquent sermon, well worthy of the occasion. Our hopes of peace being arrived at had, he said, by God's blessing, been fulfilled, and during the past week the good news had been on the lips of every one. One effect of the war in South Africa had been the closer drawing together of the bonds of Empire between the home country and the Colonies; that, we could hope, would prove to be of a lasting nature. As to the future of South Africa, there would be many difficulties to overcome; there was much negotiation and arrangement to be carried through which would require delicate and careful treatment; and a great deal depended upon the men at the head of affairs for the successful accomplishment of these matters. The preacher concluded by pointing out the immense possibilities of our South African possessions and expressing the hope that the greatest good might result from their exploitation and development. The sermon was listened to with attention by the congregation. Special thanksgiving hymns were sung during the service. The choir being present in full strength, the choral portion was effectively rendered.

In the Union Church the service also was one entirely of thanksgiving. The Rev. Mr. Hickling preached an able sermon, the basis of which was that a righteous cause must triumph in the end.

Mr. G. C. Fullerton's resignation of his commission as lieutenant in the Hongkong Volunteers has been accepted.

HOUSING OF POPULATION IN HONGKONG.

In a *Government Gazette Extraordinary* issued yesterday there was published a report, signed by Messrs. Osbert Chadwick and W. J. Simpson, on the question of the housing of the population of Hongkong. The report, with a draft Bill and numerous appendices, is very long. We make the following extracts:—

The insanitary areas in Hongkong have been formed, first, by the crowding together of too many houses on too small a space; secondly, by sanitary defects in the design of dwelling-houses; and thirdly, by overcrowding of the inhabitants in these houses.

CROWDING TOGETHER OF TOO MANY HOUSES ON TOO SMALL A SPACE.

The crowding together of too many houses on too small a space has been effected by the construction of narrow streets and lanes and by the omission to provide adequate open space in the rear of houses in the shape of back-yards and of back-lanes. The houses have thus been brought into close proximity to one another instead of being well separated with ample space between them. The conditions vary in intensity according to the age of the built-over areas. The worst conditions are to be found where back-to-back houses have been constructed or where the lane between the rear of houses is not more than 6 or 8 feet wide. In either case neither light nor ventilation is accessible from the back, while only a very inadequate amount is obtainable from the narrow street or lane in front owing to the height of the houses being out of all proportion to the width of the street or lane. Similar unhealthy conditions occur when the rear of the house abuts on the hillside with the additional circumstance that the house is rendered damp during the rains from percolation of water from the hill. The best conditions are to be seen in the newest localities, more especially in Kowloon where the houses are separated from one another by wider streets and where back-yards or back-lanes, and in some cases back-yards and back-lanes are provided; but even here, though a great improvement on the old areas has been effected and, in that respect, the conditions are more healthy, yet as will be shown later the separation is not to such an extent as to prevent the areas when completely built over becoming more or less insanitary and bearing a resemblance in a minor degree to the insanitary areas of the old period. Between the old and the new localities there is every variety of density, and as the density of the houses approximates more to the one or to the other, so do insanitary conditions vary. Houses, like individuals, require a certain amount of space to themselves to be healthy, and if that space is encroached upon in any way and the houses are brought in close proximity to one another without compensating arrangements for adequate ventilation and exposure of the rooms to sunlight, it is only a matter of time for the locality to become unhealthy.

The necessary amount of separation of houses where property is valuable and where a large population is to be housed is usually secured by regularly laid-out streets which bear a proportion in their width to the height of the houses facing them and by a definite proportion of back-yard and back-lane in the rear which also bear in their width a relationship to the height of the house as well as to its roofed-over area. The importance of the width of the street is readily appreciated because it facilitates traffic, and for that reason there is of recent years no difficulty as a rule in obtaining ample separation of houses facing a street, but the importance of the space behind houses and the necessity for a similar amount of space as exists in the street before another house is permitted to be built in the rear, is not so manifest and consequently there is always a tendency on the part of property owners to curtail this space; the greater their success in curtailment the more unhealthy does the locality become. Wide streets in front of houses, without wide spaces behind to separate them from the houses in the rear, do not provide sufficient air space to secure a healthy locality.

The report then proceeds to give a number of examples of crowding together of houses under old Regulations, from which we select one:—

The crowding together of houses on too small a space is well exemplified in Plate I, which represents an area, bounded by Hollywood Road, Queen's Road Central, Wellington Street, and Aberdeen Street. The area of the block is 171,224 square feet, equal to 3.93 acres. It contains 142 houses comprising 470 floors. The area of streets upon which buildings front within this block is 19,890 square feet, equal to 0.45 acre. The area of the back-yards and other open spaces around the buildings is 5,516 square feet, equal to 0.13 acre. Thus no less than 85 per cent. of the total area is roofed over, and if the open space of the streets and lanes be excluded, that around buildings only amounts to 3.2 per cent. It is obvious that the crowding together of houses in this block could hardly be greater, and resumption for the purpose of opening out wider streets and improving the sanitary condition of the houses is urgently needed.

Examples of the crowding together of houses under the existing regulations follow.

SANITARY DEFECTS IN THE DESIGN OF CHINESE HOUSES.

The defects in design of houses which contribute to their unhealthiness, are caused by their great depth without lateral windows, the position of the kitchen in relation to the dwelling-house, the position of the back-lane in relation to the kitchen and the dwelling-house, the construction of rooms or basements against or too close to the side of the hill and the division of rooms into cubicles. All of them serve to obstruct the light and free circulation of air so necessary for a healthy dwelling. Besides the close, narrow and ill-ventilated streets and lanes, formed by the process of erecting too many houses on too small a space, the structure of the houses and of their interior is not in accordance with sanitary principles. The newer houses are often worse in this respect than the older, for at one time the tendency was to build shallow houses from which sunlight and fresh air were excluded in consequence of other houses being built later in too close proximity to them. As time has gone on, houses have generally become deeper and deeper, until there are being erected on the Praya Reclamation back-to-back buildings of from 7½ to 9½ feet each in depth with an extra 10 feet of veranda in each encroaching on the public street.

In future houses, all basements should be abolished. There are many houses built without them so that there is nothing impracticable in demanding, in all new houses, the abolition of the basement.

Verandahs.—The large masonry verandahs three and four stories high encroaching on the public streets to the extent of 10 feet on each side lessen the width of the streets and at the same time darken the rooms of the houses, especially of the two lower floors. In all new streets, verandahs encroaching on the public way should not be allowed. Many houses have not these masonry verandahs, but have small balconies of a lighter structure on their own land. Plate XIII shows a row of houses in the same street with balconies on their own land and another row with masonry verandahs encroaching on the public street. The houses with the balconies get their rooms better lighted and ventilated than those with the verandahs. There is no encroachment on and narrowing of the public way. Masonry verandahs projecting on to the street were first constructed as a concession and privilege. Now it is almost looked upon as a right which permits the builder to construct in a three or four-storied house 2 or 3 extra rooms at the expense of the Government, i.e., on Government land, because the verandahs become practically rooms of the house. If a builder desires to attach verandahs to his house he should be allowed to do so only on condition that the verandahs do not encroach on Crown land. Similarly so in regard to balconies. The erection of balconies on narrow streets only renders these streets narrower and should be discontinued.

From the foregoing it will be gathered that the Chinese tenement houses in Hongkong differ in style from the European. They also differ from the ordinary Chinese houses in Canton or other Chinese city, where the buildings are not more than two stories in height and often not more than one. By some gradual process of evolution they have taken on the

worst features of both kinds of houses and none of their best. The tenement houses in Hongkong consist of several stories, each storey containing one long room lighted at each end by a window but without lateral windows. Each room is subdivided into cubicles called cubicles which accommodate an entire family. The room on each floor communicates in the rear by a bridge with the kitchen which is separated from the house by a small yard; and in front with a masonry verandah which encroaches on the public street and which being separated by partitions from the adjoining houses is used as an additional room for the house. The length of room without lateral windows, the kitchen buildings in the rear and the smallness of the back-yard, by obstructing the free access of light and air cause the two lower stories at least to be dark and badly ventilated. The verandahs in front still further increase this undesirable condition and the cubicles in the room intensify it to such an extent that none of the rooms are healthy habitations. The cubicle system leads to overcrowding in its worst form and, with the absence of light and fresh air, under its worst conditions, for with the existing design of buildings whenever there are more than two cubicles in a room even in the upper stories the compartment is dark and devoid of fresh air. With darkness, absence of fresh air and overcrowding it is impossible to keep them clean.

OVERCROWDING.

There are two kinds of overcrowding in Hongkong—one produced by the close proximity of the houses, crowding the occupants of the houses on a small area; the other by too many inmates occupying one house. Both of these may occur apart from one another but it is usual for them to be found together, producing conditions of the worst kind. Plate I, showing a block of houses in Health District No. 5, furnishes an example of both kinds, for not only are the houses crowded together, thus raising the density of population on the area, but the houses themselves are overcrowded with people. The interior of this block should be resumed and one or more streets cut through it so that the remaining buildings can be laid out on sanitary principles. [Since this report was drafted a number of the houses in this area have been destroyed by fire and it is very important that advantage should be taken of the opportunity thus afforded to carry out the necessary reforms, says Professor Simpson in a footnote.] There are many smaller areas like it, which can be rectified only by removing every other row of buildings. The latter process would reduce the surface overcrowding, but it would not affect the overcrowding of the people in the houses, which still remains. To prevent overcrowding it is accordingly necessary not only to limit the number of houses to be built on a given area, but also to limit the number of people that shall occupy a room. The present limit of not less than 30 square feet is too low a standard and should be raised to 50 square feet. No definite rules in regard to cubic space per head are laid down in England except with reference to common lodging-houses which are required by the byelaws to be vacated, the windows freely opened, and beds stripped during certain hours of every day. But the Imperial Public Health Act defines as a "Nuisance" any house or part of a house so overcrowded as to be dangerous or injurious to the health of the inmates and it is left to the discretion of the Sanitary Authority on the advice of the Medical Officer of Health to determine what constitutes overcrowding; their decision is of course subject, in the event of legal proceedings, to the decision of the Magistrates who would be naturally guided by expert evidence. In a tropical country and with an Eastern population whose tendency is to herd together, the conditions are so different from those obtaining in England that it is desirable not only to have definite rules laid down for all classes of native dwellings but also to fix the minimum at a proportionately higher level. This view was taken by one of us in 1882 and it was then recommended that 600 cubic feet of air space should be the minimum allowance per head; 50 square feet of floor space per head is the minimum recognised in India for all classes. In order that the unbuilt over areas of Kowloon and the New Territory shall not get into the

the crowded state as the City of Victoria. It is important that they should be laid out on definite lines, and with this object in view it is recommended that a map should be drawn showing existing and projected streets, covering land planned out on lines which will ultimately, when the areas are built on, secure a healthy and well-ventilated town.

PROPOSED BILL.

In preparing the draft Bill which has for its object the avoidance of the necessity for further sanitary legislation for the next few years, it was soon found that the only practicable way of carrying out this proposal was to consolidate the whole of the Sanitary and Building Ordinances in one Bill, for the Public Health Ordinance of 1901 was found to contain many clauses relating to construction, some of which, in our opinion, most certainly need amendment. This consolidation however is quite in keeping with the construction of the Imperial Public Health Act of 1875 and subsequent amending Acts which deal not only with sanitary administration but also with the regulation of streets and buildings, and we are sure that to have all the provisions of the local law on sanitary and constructional matters within the pages of one Ordinance will prove very useful not only to the officials whose duty it is to see that the law is complied with, but also to the architects and others who design and erect the buildings. The Bill is divided into six parts.—Part I being Preliminary, dealing mainly with definitions; Part II dealing with Public Health Administration; Part III with Building Construction; Part IV with the Rights of adjacent owners; Part V with the Resumption of Property by the Crown for sanitary reasons; and Part VI with Penalties and Contraventions.

In Part II provision is made, in the constitution of the Sanitary Board, for a Sanitary Commissioner, as we are convinced that the Sanitary Department should be administered by an officer who should devote the whole of his time to such duties, and who should be *ex officio* the Chairman of the Board and Head of the Department. This officer should be a medical man specially trained and skilled in sanitary affairs, and responsible to the Government for the efficient administration of the Department. Certain duties which are now performed by the Medical Officer of Health, in the name of the Board, have been transferred to the Sanitary Commissioner, but care has been taken not to encroach in any way upon the powers of the Board, as we consider that such a Board is capable of doing much good work on behalf of the Colony. The Bill accordingly imposes upon the Sanitary Commissioner the duty of dealing with all nuisances and sanitary defects of whatever nature, but leaves to the Board the power of granting licences, permits, exemptions, etc., of controlling the policy of the Department and of advising the Government as to the sanitary needs of the Colony. We consider moreover that there should still be a Medical Officer of Health who, with the Surveyor and the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon would continue to be the chief executive officers of the Board. It has moreover been deemed necessary to transfer the Port Health Officers to the Sanitary Department as their duties are essentially sanitary and their separation only tends to render inefficient the work of sanitary administration.

With regard to the Building clauses contained in Part III of the Bill careful consideration has been given to the Report submitted by the local architects, and many of their suggestions have been adopted, such for instance as the non-application of the Ordinance to buildings already planned (within certain limits of time) and contracted for, the right of an authorized architect to appear before the Executive Council before his name is removed from the list, the question of the rights of adjacent owners, and other matters of considerable moment to which our attention has been directed by the said report.

With regard to the setting back of buildings in narrow private streets it has not been thought necessary to go beyond the law of 1899, which requires an open space of seven and a half feet to be measured from the middle of the street to be left in front of any building.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE EUROPEAN RESERVATION.

Ordinances of 1888 are incorporated with some amendment of the boundaries) in Part III and it will be found that several of the clauses in this Part relating to the construction only apply to buildings outside such reservation, as they have been especially drawn to meet the conditions which obtain in Chinese tenement houses and others of that class.

With regard to the resumption of insanitary property, many blocks of buildings throughout the City of Victoria will undoubtedly have to be gradually bought up by the Government and the areas laid out in a more sanitary manner, more open space around each building being an especial desideratum in many of the most congested areas, and we have accordingly incorporated in this Bill the clauses of the Crown Lands Resumption Ordinance which appear to follow closely the provisions of the Imperial Housing of the Working Classes Act and to provide all the necessary powers for the resumption of insanitary or obstructive buildings. In such cases compensation for resumption is always given, but the Bill does not propose to offer compensation to the owners for the erection of sanitary dwellings on land at present unoccupied, nor for the re-erection, on land already occupied, of dwellings of an improved type to those now in existence. The right of an owner of property to re-erect dwellings of an insanitary type, because his present dwellings are insanitary, should not be admitted.

In regard to the question of cubicles it should be specially noted that the Bill does not prohibit cubicles, but regulates them by requiring that every cubicle shall be provided with a window into the external air. As every cubicle is a dwelling compartment for one or more persons, and often for an entire family, it is only in accordance with the ordinary laws of sanitation to require that it shall be separately lit and ventilated by a window into the external air. The law has required since 1894 that every "habitable room" shall be so provided and it is not in accordance with the spirit of that law that a dwelling room with one or two windows, should be subdivided into a number of rooms, each occupied by a family, of which only the room at the front of the building and possibly the one at the back can have windows into the external air. No person can legitimately claim the right to house tenants in windowless rooms, merely with a view to increasing the rental of his property, and where such has been done, no claim to compensation should be entertained for the discontinuance of this dangerous practice.

We would ask (say Messrs. Chadwick and Simpson in conclusion) that the Bill may be referred to the Attorney-General so that its phraseology may be altered, where necessary, to the legal form, and any flaws in its construction rectified, and we believe that if the Government can secure its adoption by the Legislative Council with only such alteration as the Attorney-General may deem necessary, the Colony will possess an Ordinance which will gradually secure a great improvement in its general sanitary condition and will lead to the suppression of those diseases which are dependent upon overcrowding and insanitary conditions for their propagation.

THE HEALTH OF HONGKONG.

The cases of communicable disease notified in Hongkong during the week ended the 7th inst. were:—Plague 53 (1 Portuguese, the rest Chinese); 38 in Victoria, 14 outside the City, with 52 deaths; cholera 16 (2 Europeans, 1 Japanese, 13 Chinese; 12 in Victoria, 4 outside), with 13 deaths.

At the end of the week ending 7th inst. the year's plague cases numbered 241 (26 Chinese, 14 other Asiatics, 1 European), with 233 deaths (222 Chinese, 10 other Asiatics, 1 European). The addition of 9 more cases since then has brought the year's total to 250 at noon on Saturday last.

The summary of deaths during April shows a total of 673, including 30 from the European and Foreign community (24 civilians, 4 Army, 2 Navy) and 643 Chinese. Chest affections claimed 184 victims; cholera 117; plague 21; and malaria 19. 160 Chinese died in No. 2 health district. The averages in the principal registration districts were:—British and foreign Civil

community, 20.8 per 1,000 population; Chinese, Victoria, land 51.1, water 19.3; Chinese, whole Colony, land 27.5, boat 19.5; land and boat 26.3; total civil community, 22.4.

DR. HARTIGAN'S DEPARTURE.

By the American mail on the 7th inst. there departed from Hongkong a gentleman who has had a long and intimate connection with Hongkong. For more than a quarter of a century Dr. Hartigan's name had been a household word in the Colony, his genial presence was everywhere known and welcomed, and he was universally esteemed, not only as the popular and clever family practitioner, but as a recognised authority on tropical diseases and sanitary matters. Dr. Hartigan came out about twenty-six years ago, having previously been a doctor in the P. & O. S. N. Co.'s service, to join Dr. O'Brien, and when that veteran medico retired a few years later, Dr. Hartigan succeeded to the practice, being soon afterwards joined by Dr. Patrick Manson, and subsequently by Dr. Caithie. Both those gentlemen retired some years ago, and Drs. Steckman and Rennie joined the firm. No family doctor in Hongkong, therefore, has ever had so long and continuously intimate a connection with the Colony as Dr. Hartigan; none has assisted in bringing into it so many little colonists. No medical practitioner ever carried with him on his rounds a breezier or more cheery manner or inspired more hope and confidence in his patients. In public life Dr. Hartigan was also well known. He was physician to the Alice Memorial Hospital, served on several important special commissions, and was twice—at considerable intervals—a member of the Sanitary Board, and took a very active part in its discussions and work. But the worthy doctor's Celtic blood made him impatient of the checks and obstructions placed in the way of the reforms he advocated, and he resigned office after a spell of what he termed, if we remember rightly, "beating the air," in a vain attempt to carry the measures then proposed. He was also a prominent member of the Committee for the Sanitary Reform of the Colony, whose labours have resulted in the arrival of the two sanitary experts sent out by the Secretary of States for the Colonies. Dr. Hartigan married a sister of Lady Jackson soon after his arrival here, and has two children. He has now decided to settle down in the old country.

A CONSTABLE'S ADVENTURE IN THE NEW TERRITORY.

Police Sergeant Davitt, doing duty in the Sheung Shui district of the New Territory the other day, had an adventure upon the fortunate termination of which, considering all the circumstances of the case, he has reason to congratulate himself. Near the border he met three Chinamen carrying heavy bamboo poles, one of them, in addition, a bundle which he appeared very anxious to screen from observation. This was enough for Sergeant Davitt, and he ordered the man to stop and asked him the nature of the burden he was carrying. There being no reply beyond a sullen look, Sergeant Davitt stretched out his hand to search for himself what the bundle contained, when he was immediately set upon by the other two Chinamen, who attacked him with their bamboo poles and struck him on the legs and head, smashing his sun helmet. Sergeant Davitt pluckily held on to his man and the bundle, which he succeeded in wrenching away, and found to contain amongst other things, a loaded revolver and some ammunition. An attempt was made to snatch the weapon from him, but with his truncheon Sergeant Davitt sent in flight the two men who had attacked him, and marched the other to the lock-up at Sheung Shui. The men are believed to have been on the way to commit robbery, and were punished by the timely and praiseworthy act of Sergeant Davitt.

The mercantile community will be gratified to learn from the advertisement in the *China Mail* elsewhere in our issue for the *China Mail* News that the ill-fated *China Mail* steamer of the 9th April is withdrawn, and will be back for duty and on the 15th April. Coal will be given to all the steamers.

CURIOUS AFFAIR IN HONAN.

The *Universal Gazette's* Honan correspondent has the following:—

The other day, the third party of Germans visiting this province happening to be in a village belonging to Fanchuihsien went to look at some theatricals which were being held in the village temple, in honour of the village god. Naturally the curiosity of the villagers, male and female, centred upon the rarely seen strangers instead of upon the actors on the stage, and a crush ensued which was so great that the Germans were encircled at close quarters on all sides. The ungraciousness of the unwashed mob was apparently unbearable, and one of the strangers took out a small bottle, very likely of Florida water, or *eau de Cologne*, which he sprinkled about him, not knowing, as was natural, that such a harmless act would be distorted by the ignorant villagers into a charge of an attempt "to scatter poison" amongst them, whilst others cried out that the strangers were using some "charmed" water to entice the female villagers to come to them. A disturbance arose and the Germans had to retreat; but the villagers succeeded in seizing the baggage of the strangers. Complaint was promptly made at the *yamen* of the district magistrate of Fanchuihsien, and a claim of Tls. 3,000 further made for the loss of the baggage seized by the villagers. The magistrate summoned the village elders before him, and after censuring them told them that if they wished to preserve themselves and their fellow villagers from harm they must hand over Tls. 8,000 to remunerate the Germans for their losses. The elders stoutly asserted their inability to raise even Tls. 300, much less Tls. 3,000, and the magistrate ultimately had to decree that the whole *hsien*, or district, should help to raise the money. This produced a great uproar culminating almost in a riot amongst all the inhabitants inside, as well as outside the city of Fanchuihsien, and the news being reported to the Governor at Kaifeng, he immediately sent a deputy to investigate the matter, the result of which is being now anxiously awaited for.

THE SHANTUNG RAILWAY.

The first beautifully decorated train of the Shantung Railway arrived here last night, bringing a large number of guests, who were invited by the manager of the Company, writes a Weihaien correspondent to the *Ostasiatische Lloyd* on the 2nd inst. The weather was splendid. The Governor of Kiaochan, Captain Truppel, accompanied us as far as Kaumi, where a guard of honour formed by the German Garrison was present. Governor Truppel returned then to Tsingtao, while one of his aides-de-camp came with us as his representative to Weihaien. The Chinese Mandarins and Officers, who came to stations to welcome the train, after we had left Nganliu, to which place trains have already been running for some time, boarded our train and also came with us to Weihaien. Wherever a station was passed, we were welcomed, banners and crackers being prepared for the occasion and many sightseers being present. The barley-fields along the railway were in perfect condition; and villages which we passed were gaily decorated. The refreshments on the train were splendid.

About 1,600 Chinese soldiers are guarding the railway. We saw them at the villages in small troops of a hundred or a hundred and fifty. The men are apparently badly armed and it seems that many ruffians are amongst them. As far as we could see the population was exceedingly cheerful and is, as we were told, now very friendly towards the railway. Here and there small thefts of building-material have been reported, but as the culprits were always at once severely punished, there are now very seldom cases of this kind.

The station buildings are very plain, but rather effective in appearance. The railway officials are apparently well trained. We noticed German officers only in Tsingtao, Kiaochow, Kaumi, and Weihaien; all employees at the smaller stations are exclusively Chinese. The managers of the railway on the trains report that they are "doing their duty splendidly. The traffic from the interior is constantly growing, especially the number of Chinese

travelling fourth class between Nganliu and Tsingtao is already considerable. The Chinese railway employees have proved themselves entirely fit to handle this gradually growing traffic.

Shortly before we reached Weihaien at 6 p.m. last night, we passed the station of Changlanyuan, from which place a side-track has been laid to Fangtze. It is expected that the first coal will be obtained from Fangtze in July or August, and mining experts assure us that the quality of the coal which has been found there is good.

A large crowd waited for us in Weihaien, showing the keenest interest by silent amazement. Also a large number of Mandarins were assembled at the station to welcome us.

Later in the evening all guests partook of the banquet which was prepared by the Hotel Krippendorff. About 150 people sat down. Governor Chang Jen-chün sent as his representative from Chinanfu, Ku Hung-ming, the former interpreter-secretary of Chang Chih-tung; also the Chinese Director of Railways, Tao'ai Hung, was present. The banquet hall was richly decorated with red silk banners. A Chinese band played during the meal. Toasts were given by Major Hofrichter, Mr. Ku and Director Hildebrand. The rejoicing was large and increased from hour to hour, all being convinced that the whole affair was a success. Many congratulatory telegrams were received, among them some from Shanghai: to all a kind reply was sent.

We shall leave Weihaien for Tsingtao again this morning at 8 o'clock, i.e., in one hour.

I learnt, while here, that the work for the building of the line from here to Ts'ingchoufu (250 kilometers) has already been taken up and will be completed by the end of this year. When the building of two lines, one to Chinanfu and one to the Poshan coalfields, will be commenced without delay.

A German Post Office was opened yesterday in Weihaien.

THE SIAMESE QUESTION.

The *Bangkok Times* of the 29th ult. writes:— "So far as we know, the trouble in French Laos has been a rising of the wild mountain tribes, who have never been brought properly under control and who dislike French rule, while the trouble in Siamese territory seems to have originated in a wave of semi-religious fanaticism. Both Governments have, of course, been perfectly able to deal with such local outbreaks, and we are not aware that there has been any misunderstanding between them. The only pity is that the long outstanding differences between the Governments give such an opportunity to aggressive politicians to exaggerate and misrepresent everything that occurs. Another result is that Siam becomes involved in Anglo-French polemics. For example Hongkong is alarmed at the French purchase of land near Macao, and the *Daily Press* points to 'the desperate efforts of the French to build up a strong position in the Canton neighbourhood,' and characterises the new acquisition of land as 'a part of the ambitious schemes with which M. Doumer has identified himself.' Going on to deal with French activity in the South-east and the telegrams we have quoted, our Hongkong contemporary says 'Were it the fact that Siamese aggression or impotence to control Siamese subjects was the cause of difficulties to the French authorities on the Indo-Chinese border, France would be justified in remonstrating and indeed in taking stronger measures. But is this so? The attitude of France toward Siam, down to the illegal retention of Chantaboon and beyond, has been one of constant encroachment. It is clear that there must be some limits to this. Siam, denuded one by one of its provinces bordering on Indo-China, will be of no use as a buffer state, and, therefore, we cannot sit still and see the process which menaces not only the existence of Siam, but our own frontier's ultimate security.' These general statements are all very well, but we had much rather see a definite settlement arranged, and there should be little difficulty if both Governments were reasonable."

Precisely. We should all like to see a definite settlement, the absence of which, coupled with

certain doubts as to the reasonableness of the Governments, makes the situation grave.

The *Bangkok Times* has also the following on the "Rebel Khas":—

"We have received a letter from an occasional correspondent who is trading on the Mekong, with regard to the rising in the French Laos. It contains some additional particulars supplementing the account we have already given from other sources. The Khas rebels under Ong Keo were armed, some with rifles, some with bows and arrows, and some with stout cudgels. The band numbered about 700, including some Annamites and others, and Ong Keo had as his first lieutenant a man named Ong Man. They were on the warpath in March when they attacked the Siamese town of Kemarat, evidently with a view to loot. The people of that town, however, made a stout defence and succeeded in driving off the enemy, who then returned to French territory. The big fight with the French force at Savannakhet took place on the 21st April, and lasted for three hours, from 9 a.m. to noon. The Khas showed great courage, as each man fell another stepped into his place. Afterwards, as our correspondent naively puts it, the Khas saw their friends dead too much, and ran away. The Siamese authorities on the other bank were making hasty preparations to go to the assistance of the French commissioner, when word came that the rebels had been beaten off. Both Ong Keo and Ong Man escaped. The rebels left 12 dead on the field; a number of prisoners were also taken and were put to death. The French loss has not transpired. The inhabitants, Chinese and Lao, were greatly frightened, and were carrying off their belongings to the right bank of the river. We give these particulars for what they may be worth. Our correspondent writes in good faith from Mukdahan, a Siamese town on the Mekong, which he says was in a state of considerable excitement making preparations to meet any attack from the French rebels. The details he gives are simply what was currently reported and believed in that district, and should therefore be accurate in the main. Curiously enough it would seem to be only the danger of attack from the left bank that is exciting the part of the 25-kilometre zone where our correspondent has been, for he says nothing of the Siamese 'Phu Visets' that have given so much trouble farther to the west."

The *Siam Observer*, which also quotes from our article of the 16th ult., says:—

"It might be added that the question of the movement of troops has, according to our belief, been satisfactorily settled, and that instead of the disturbances in Eastern Siam being a cause for anxiety in French territory, the case has rather been the other way about. The disturbances created by the Poo Visait fanatics in Siamese territory have already been quelled by the Siamese authorities. The disturbances in French territory appear to have been more serious than those in Siam, and, though the ability of the French authorities to cope with them is not doubted, we are still uncertain whether they have been entirely suppressed. Latest reports, however, seem to be hopeful. In view of these facts it is hardly necessary to comment on the following telegram to Kobe, dated London, 1st May, which says that 'French troops from Indo-China are reported to be helping the Siamese to suppress the rebellion which has broken out on the Mekong,' and that 'the French desire for expansion is disturbing the situation.' Of course French troops never helped the Siamese to suppress the disturbances. The French had quite enough to do in their own territory."

The *Siam Observer* makes a great point of an incident alleged to have taken place at Klung, twenty miles to the south of Chantaboon, in Siamese territory. It is stated that the French Commandant sent 150 men to arrest three Chinamen who were in possession of a piece of land belonging to a Roman Catholic. This was after the Siamese Governor had been asked to interfere and had declined, stating that the case was a civil one.

The *Bangkok Times* understands that the services of a French civil engineer have been secured by the Siamese Government, and that he is expected there from Paris at an early date—possibly by the next *Dona*. He is to be attached to the Sanitary Department, in the

position, it is reported, of chief engineer. One of the main points laid stress on by France for some time past, in any discussion of the differences with Siam, has been the fact that practically there is only one Frenchman among the many foreigners in the Government service. It may therefore be hoped that the new appointment can be taken as indicative of a somewhat better understanding between the Governments.

The *Siam Free Press* is informed that Siam has granted to Japan a large and important concession of land, in the neighbourhood beyond the Sapatoom Race-course, Bangkok, for the purpose of establishing a school for the development of sericultural industry in Siam. Other concessions to the same nation are very much "in the air," also; and this is only a harbinger of those that are to follow, by all accounts. No more handy place could be allotted to the hardy and industrious Japanese for establishing their base of operations, than the neighbourhood of Sapatoom, and once the colony is firmly rooted in that fertile soil it will take deep hold, while extending its branches far and wide. It is a sign of the times, continues the *Free Press*, when we hear that Captain de Richelieu, who has so long been connected with the Royal Siamese Navy and who rendered invaluable service to the King and country in that Department for a long period, and also another prominent official, Captain K. de Lerche and some other European officers, are resigning from service in the Siamese Navy. These gentlemen deserve well of Siam, having rendered yeoman service to her King, and now they retire for some reasons better known to themselves. But what is strange, we hear that their places will not be filled by other Europeans. From this we may conclude that the beginning of the "Orientalisation" of Siam is near at hand.

DEVELOPMENT OF FORMOSA.

The *Osaka Asahi* publishes an interesting letter from Taipei, as follows:

Seven years have now elapsed since Formosa was acquired by Japan. The first three or four years were spent in investigations, and it is only recently that practical experiments were made and public works started in earnest. The time has at last arrived for carrying out the schemes proposed, and the authorities are now ready to sit in the promotion of industrial enterprises. Beside the works under local governments, which are to be carried out with the aid of the local taxes, the principal experiments undertaken for the present fiscal year by the authorities of the Governor-General's Office relate to the sugar, weaving, porcelain, and sericulture industries, in addition to the establishment of a station for training aborigines, the improvement of tea manufacture, the cultivation of tobacco, and the establishment of an agricultural experiment station. A sum of 149,700 yen has been appropriated for the encouragement and improvement of the sugar industry for the present fiscal year, and the regulations relating to the official organisation and function of the Sugar Bureau are already drafted, and are expected to be published shortly.

The weaving industry in Formosa has been found to be a lucrative business, and an experiment proposed for the wearing of stuffs from the tissue of pineapples, ramie, &c., which are largely exported to China. Funds for the encouragement of the various local authorities, and the central authorities are considering the applications.

It is arranged that an appropriate subsidy shall be granted this year by the Government for the encouragement of the manufacture of porcelain, the cultivation of tobacco, and sericulture. The establishment of the station for training aborigines in business methods was proposed last year, and has now been taken in hand. The sum of 3,000 yen was set aside for this purpose. The experiment station for the culture of vegetables by the "Teraso tribe," under the jurisdiction of the Koshun local government, was established last year, but only 1,850 yen was at first appropriated, the amount being increased to 7,625 yen this year. This station is intended for the supply of vegetables for household use.

Experiments for the improvement of the tea planters are still being made. The examination of manure was taken in hand for the first time in November last. Tea-culture experimental

stations are established at Bunsanbo and Tokanbo, under the charge of Mr. Fujia, an expert. Last year 1,830 yen was appropriated to this department, and all the arrangements required were completed. This year 3,500 yen has been granted, and the testing of manure has been commenced. People of the island who are interested in tea-cultivation say that the plants, given manure, produce more leaves, but they lose the natural flavour of the Formosa tea, so that they are unfit for making the best Oolong variety. If the results of the experiment be as anticipated, the production of tea can be doubled, and as it is intended to use machines for preparing the leaf, the result will be a reduction in the price and in the manufacturing expenses. Formosan tea may compete in price with the tea market of the world. The expenses appropriated to the four agricultural experimental stations in the island amount to 24,259 yen.

MACAO.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Macao, 8th June.

THE HEALTH OF THE COLONY.

It has been suggested to me that my last communication, published in your columns on Tuesday last, might have led to some misconception as to the actual state of the public health of Macao, without certain amplifications. In deference to the feeling which has been created and with a view to dissipate any fears as regards the healthiness of the city, as well as in justice to the tradal interest, such as it is, of the port, I have obtained and now give publicity to the most authoritative statement in reference to the recent mortality amongst the population of Macao. Up to the present the only Europeans who have fallen victims to cholera are two men of the land and maritime police, an artilleryman, and a Sister of Charity. In all these cases no report was made when the first symptoms of the disease manifested themselves, and recourse in each case was had to medical aid only at the eleventh hour. The percentage of recovery when the sickness is taken in hand in the early stage shows that the disease is easily tractable by the administration of the right specific. All Europeans, Macaenses, and Chinese living in proper conditions of comfort and hygiene have enjoyed perfect immunity from attack. The immediate causation of the recent mortality from choleraic complaints is set down, as at first reported, to the contaminated water obtained from wells, after a long period of drought, in the quarters inhabited by the poor and ignorant class of Chinese, whose usual apathy neglects the ordinary principles of sanitation, to the detriment of their own safety. But those who took timely notice of the warnings issued by the municipal authorities, by having water boiled before using it for potable purposes, have been singularly free from attack. In this respect, I learn that the hotels and all public institutions exercise the most careful supervision over the water supplied to and consumed in those establishments. The general death-rate compared with the corresponding period for previous years is very favourable, in spite of the number of deaths from cholera.

It is a singular fact that notwithstanding the prevalence of plague in Canton, Hongkong, and in the island dependencies (Taipa and Colouan) of Macao, the mortality of statistics for Macao proper show only two fatal cases of plague for the current year. The second case recorded was on the 23rd March last; since then not a single case has come to the notice of the sanitary authorities nor any discovered in the course of the daily inspections. Considering the analogy of the climatic and other conditions of Macao with the neighbouring ports, this immunity can only be attributed to the improvement schemes brought forward by H.E. Senator Horta e Costa, seconded by the municipal authorities, and carried out with the ready acquiescence of a good-natured community, in various parts of the city which formerly constituted hot-beds of the plague bacillus. With the resumption and relaying of the Horta de Mitra the finishing stroke will be given to the general measures of sanitary improvements, and another bid made to retain for Macao the enviable reputation of being the sanatorium for South China.

CANTON.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Canton, 7th June.

A RIVER OUTRAGE.

A few days ago a pirate chief, nicknamed "the scarred dog," and six of his comrades took passage in a boat to go home to Pak Nai. It happened that a few soldiers and the captain of the Hee regiment were also there among the passengers. Upon a private informer telling this captain that there were pirates on board, he captain ordered his soldiers to make search among the passengers for arms. The pirate chief, having heard of it, pulled out his revolver and shot the captain dead. The informer was also killed, while some soldiers were wounded and others jumped into the water. The pirates ordered the pilot to take the boat to the shore, when they cleared out.

A WONDERFUL MACHINE.

A certain inventor, by name Kwok Yuk-ying has invented a machine bow to discharge arrows from. He presented a petition to the Viceroy saying the machine would be quite able to compete with foreign rifles in warfare. His Excellency ordered him to make an experimental trial of it before General Chung Hip, of the native regiment, on the parade ground. The invention was fired three times, and turned out to be a failure!

A NEW EMBANKMENT.

Permission for the constructing of the embankment of Wong Sha at the north-east of Shamen was granted to Lo Sew Ping, Kwok Nai Sum, and others. They were to fill up the embankment to the extent of 30 cheungs (300 feet) along the seafront. Work was begun last year. But instead of 30, cheungs the licensees have allowed the embankments along the sea front to be filled up to 80 cheungs' extent. The result is that the gentry of that locality have petitioned against them for obstructing river navigation. The Viceroy ordered two or three weisungs to make investigations, and they reported that it was a fact that an obstruction of navigation has been caused. The licensees were ordered to remove the obstruction and pay a fine.

SWATOW.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Swatow, 6th June.

NAVAL MOVEMENTS.

H.M. torpedo-boats Hart, Fame, and Whiting, on their way from Hongkong to the North, called in here on the 4th inst. and left again the following day.

CHANGE OF OFFICIALS.

Taotai Ting Pao Chuan arrived here from Peking via Hongkong on the 30th instant. Ting, who has come to relieve the present Taotai Chuh, has been for many years attached to the now defunct Tsungli Yamen, and is supposed to be a very progressive and enlightened official. On the day of his arrival he called on the foreign Consuls and proceeded afterwards to Chowchowfu. The retired Taotai Chuh will be leaving very shortly.

STATE OF UREST.

In the four Hakka districts of Hsing Ning, Ping Yuan, Ching Pei, and Cheng Lok, the people are greatly alarmed owing to the appearance there of members of the Triad Society. Those places being largely inhabited by fairly well-to-do merchants, it is said that the Triad gang approach certain houses and make demands for money. Those who pay up are handed a card which guarantees no further molestations, but those who refuse to comply with their demands are in constant dread for their lives. The officials are quite powerless to deal with the peace-disturbers.

MISMAP TO THE ICE-MANUFACTORY.

Our local ice-manufactory has been very unfortunate since its erection here. Last year the water-pipes got corroded and the supply of ice was therefore stopped for the remainder of the summer. This year the company had worse luck, as one of the cylinder-covers broke and the manufacture of ice cannot be continued. I hear new machines have been ordered from America.

PAKHOL.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Pakhoi, 5th June.

RAIN AT LAST.

The long-sought-for rain came at last. From the 16th ult. it fell plentifully and continued intermittently for a few days up to the 28th ult. Altogether some 12 or 13 inches must have fallen during the month just passed and nobody can complain of scarcity of water for some time.

The weather is extremely hot, with clear blue sky, the thermometer ranging between 89 deg. and 91 deg. F.

PLAQUE.

The plague has carried away a few more victims amongst the natives lately, but fortunately only a few, and it cannot bear comparison with former years either numerically or in severity. Since the advent of rain the cases have been fewer and of milder type. Owing to a boy in the French School having fallen victim to plague, the School was closed for a few days as a preventive measure.

POSTAL AFFAIRS.

The new French Post Office, now in course of erection, will doubtless add to the beauty of the foreign residences in the Bluff when completed. It is situated a short distance to the north-west of the French Consulate.

The Chinese Imperial Postal Administration has just decided to open a branch office on the ground-floor of the Native Customs buildings, in the western part of Chinatown, for the convenience of the natives who reside in or near that locality.

MOVEMENT FOR THE WEST INDIAN DISASTER.

The news of the catastrophe in Martinique and other islands in the West Indies has cast a gloom even in our small community. Such an event cannot fail to affect every civilised being. The flags at the Consulates and at the Custom House were flying half-mast high for three days after the 31st ult. on account of the heart-rending catastrophe. A subscription list was sent round to the foreign residents by the French Consul, M. Flayelle, to raise money to mitigate the distress of the few survivors of the disaster, who must have lost every earthly thing they possess except their lives.

TRADE DEPRESSION.

Trade has never been so bad as at present. There is very little traffic between this port and the mainland; the routes are considered dangerous on account of the hordes of bandits and the lawlessness everywhere. I notice a considerable decrease in the import trade lately, as the goods are accumulating for want of outlet. The arrival of the native produce from the mainland and adjacent places has also fallen off; what little there is for export, the traders are doing at a great sacrifice, for on the top of all the steamers have raised by 25 per cent. the usual rate of freight, probably to make up for the loss they sustain through the stoppage of the native passenger-traffic to Hongkong.

THE SO-CALLED REBELLION.

Notwithstanding the continuous startling reports in some Hongkong and the Shanghai papers of the progress of the rebellion in Kwangtung and Kwangsi, we hear nothing further about the uprising in this part of the country.

PEKING.

Peking, 26th May.

AN ENERGETIC GOVERNOR.

Prince Su, since his appointment to the Governorship of the city with charge of the policing and road-making, has not wasted any time in taking up his duties. Already he has placarded Peking with proclamations announcing that the troubles in Jehol and the south-west of the province are settled, and warning the people to cease from retailing idle rumours or discussing Government affairs. He has also detailed a number of policemen, in plain clothes, to frequent the teashops and other places of public resort with instructions to arrest all those who disregard his warning. Two of these wretches, apparently with the idea of bringing their services to the notice of their superiors, entered a teashop and drawing two respectable men into conversation about government matters, forthwith arrested them and hauled them off to the police station. This incident, getting rumoured abroad, all the teashops and eating

houses have put notices up warning their customers against being drawn into conversation on political matters. This is done, not so much for the sake of their customers, as they are liable, on an arrest taking place on their premises, to be unmercifully fleeced by the rapacious yamen runners.

THE POLICE FORCE.

I hear that the Prince has decided to reorganise the police force, but seems in some doubt how to proceed, being overwhelmed and somewhat confused by the countless suggestions poured upon him by his friends. He appears to hold at stated intervals a sort of levee of would-be experts, who in their own estimation are quite capable of advising him on all and every subject. One budding youth, who spent a few months in America and professes to have thoroughly studied municipal affairs in that country, advises a police administration similar to that of New York. Doubtless this youth, while in America, proved an apt pupil of the Tammany Boss Croker, and fancies that the Tammany tactics, if transplanted to Peking, would find a congenial soil.

THE TROUBLES IN SOUTH-WEST CHIHILI.

The people in Peking are sceptical of Prince Su's proclamation announcing the settlement of the troubles in the south-west of the province. They say that Yuan Shikai's troops have killed and looted a great many people, but very few of them were rebels. The real rebels are still at large, clearing off as soon as Yuan's troops put in an appearance, and turning up in some other unexpected quarter something after the manner of the Boers. They have set fire to a temporary bridge on the railway, to the south of Chengtingfo, and scared the railway employees there.

THE INFLUENCE OF YUAN SHIKAI.

Yuan holds his position from the fact that his services are indispensable and any failure or mistake on his part might be serious for him and give his many enemies a powerful lever to oust him from his position. Some time ago a memorial was sent in to the Throne denouncing him, in which amongst other things occurred the phrase, "his heart cannot be fathomed," which in plain language means that he has designs on the Throne. The memorial was drawn by the Empress Dowager to Yung Lu, who declared the whole thing nonsense and there for the time being the matter dropped; lately, however, several other similar memorials have been sent in, and there are indications that his influence with the Court and with Yung Lu who has been his standby all along, is weakening. Probably his pro-Japanese tendencies have something to do with this.

PROBABLE MISCHIEF.

It is reported that Prince Tuan, Duke Lan, and Tung Fuhsing are in the neighbourhood of Kueihuach'eng brewing mischief. I cannot vouch for the truth of this report, but the present time would seem favourable for the Foreign Ministers, before handing over the Tientsin native city and withdrawing their troops, to demand information as to the exact whereabouts of these gentlemen. It is said that Yung Lu, although conversant with their movements and schemes, keeps silent and does nothing. No one has benefited more by the late troubles than Yung Lu, and probably this is his way of showing his gratitude to them. He is waxing fatter and fatter each day. No official dare visit the city without paying toll to him. His gatekeeper and underlings too are notorious for the amount of the bribes they demand from the provincial official who wishes to pay his respects to their master.

THE OPIUM TRADE.

An agent of Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg and Co. has been in Peking for some time doing his best to get a monopoly of the opium trade in China. The firm offered to pay eighteen million taels per year for this privilege. Prince Ching favoured the idea, but the two Yangtze Viceroys and Yuan Shikai put a damper on the scheme. Why does not some firm make a bid to run the whole Government? Probably they would find Prince Ching quite willing to accept the bid for a consideration.—N. C. Daily News.

A fire broke out in the Japanese settlement, Fusan, on the 25th ult., and 35 buildings were destroyed. The total damage is estimated at 100,000 yen.

FOOCHOW.

The following items are from the Foochow Echo of the 31st May:

Mr. G. M. Playfair, H. B. M. Consul, issued invitations to the foreign community to celebrate the birthday of King Edward the Seventh with him yesterday on the recreation-ground, where festivities, including a gymkhana, were to have taken place. The festival had been looked forward to with anticipation of an enjoyable time and it came as a great disappointment that the inclemency of the weather prevented any assemblage at all.

In a Notification dated 23rd instant, the Commissioner of Customs informed the public that he had been directed to collect tea duty at the rate of 5 per cent ad valorem from the 23rd instant, and requested shippers to state values on their applications. The reduction is very welcome, but it is feared that it has come too late to bring about any increase in the volume of the trade.

Some further particulars have reached us regarding the wreck of the *Yuko Maru*, which took place on the 9th instant, the steamer having run on the Castle Rock and, filling, sank in 30 fathoms of water. Mr. J. Geddes of the Imperial Maritime Customs, stationed at Tung Chun, saw, as he looked outside the office at about 10 o'clock in the morning of that day, a steamer outward bound from Santu but took no special notice of it and returned to his office. A few minutes later he heard loud and continuous whistling, and running out with his glass he observed that the same steamer was drifting astern and was evidently calling for assistance. He immediately jumped into his sampan and pulled off with all possible speed to her. On his approach he saw that the vessel was sinking by the head, and coming within speaking distance called to the purser who was standing aft to throw over the masts. This the purser did and then jumped himself, just in time, as the vessel began to disappear head foremost and before the whole hull was out of sight there was a terrific explosion and all the stern of the vessel was blown away. This explosion had the effect of driving Mr. Geddes's sampan back, away from her position, so assuredly it would have been drawn in and gone down with the wreck. With the disappearance of the vessel the sea was at once a mass of wreckage interspersed with human beings struggling for life. Mr. Geddes lost no time in setting about the work of rescue. By a curious coincidence the captain and the chief mate were the first to be taken out of the water, the former with a life-belt with the name of the steamer on it. In a short space of time seventeen were rescued and the sampan being full these were taken off to the larger boat of the *Letian* station. Then Mr. Geddes returned to the scene of the trouble and succeeded in saving ten more lives. There were still seven unaccounted for, and it is supposed that these were either killed in the explosion or were carried down with the wreck and drowned. Everything was done by the Customs officers to alleviate the sufferings of the rescued, several of whom were badly wounded. A message was sent to the Rev. Dr. Mackenzie at the nearest missionary station, who started at once with appliances to render assistance, but he was met by a second messenger after a five hours' walk in pouring rain who informed him that all the survivors of the wreck had been taken to Foochow by one of the smaller Japanese steamers that had unexpectedly arrived. But for the accident of this disaster occurring where it did, within hail of a *Letian* station where a European happened to be, the whole of these lives would have been lost. The promptness of Mr. Geddes's action is beyond all praise, and without doubt he should be awarded the Albert Medal for gallantry in saving life at sea.

The efforts made to suppress plague do not appear to have much influence in Formosa. On the 26th ult. nine fresh cases and seven deaths from plague were reported at Tsinpu, one case and one death at Kaiung, one case and a death at Ensuiko, and seven cases with two deaths at Tainan. The total number of cases of plague since January last amounts to 316, with 301 deaths.

NORTHERN NOTES.

The following items are from the *P. & T. Times* of the 31st ult.:—
General de Wogack is going home to Russia on furlough.

The personnel of the new Mining Bureau in Peking includes the names of Yen Fuh, Sun Pao-chi, Wang Kwan, Mow Chen-fan, Shen Tung-ho, and Wei Han.

H.E. Huang Fa Ning, known so long as the able head of the China Merchants in Tientsin and latterly as the *Hui Kuan Tad*, has been gazetted as Provincial Judge of Honan; he proceeds immediately to take up his office.

The Viceroy is still keen on a great educational policy. There is to be a new Military School, to be called the *Fing Pan*. H.E. is trying to get some of the former students of the Tientsin Naval and Military Colleges as teachers.

Shanhaikwan is shortly to have a church (Church of England) of its own. Through the energetic instrumentality of Capt. Kell (Railway Staff Officer), Mr. D. P. Ricketts, Capt. Lindsey, I.M.S., and other resident of this northern garrison town, a site has been procured, and the funds wherewith to build have been promised to within Tls. 250 of the requisite amount: building operations will commence almost at once.

Mr. C. W. Campbell, C.M.G., has been in Tientsin saying goodbye to a few old friends. It is understood that Mr. Campbell takes his furlough almost immediately and will go home by the Desert and Siberian route.

The Provisional Government, it is understood, is about to legislate on the vexed question of native-orders and bankers. It is understood that there will be an official recognition of something akin to a bankers' guild, the members of such guild undertaking mutual guarantees. It is also hoped that the cornering of syc-e or foreign cheques will be prohibited under heavy penalty. As regards the abuse of the native-order system, it has been suggested that the native banks hereafter should be compelled to meet their obligations for sums under Tls. 1,000 in five days from sight, and for sums over Tls. 1,000 in ten days. The absence of the responsible Shan Shi bankers from Tientsin, where they are only represented by minor agents, is a great bar to treating the whole question in a comprehensive way.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

CHINESE REPRESENTATION ON THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 6th June.

SIR.—It was with considerable surprise that I read the letter in this morning's issue concerning the remarks of Mr. Tse Tsan Tai on the question of the Chinese representative on the Legislative Council. Your correspondent has evidently overlooked the fact that, though Mr. Ho Tung is an Eurasian, he was elected Chairman of the Tung Wa Hospital the first time he was connected with that Institution, and also that he was the first Chairman of the Chinese Club, of which Mr. Tse Tsan Tai was, and is, a member. It must also be remembered in dealing with the question that when the petition from Dr. Ho Kai and seven others, regarding the establishment of a High Chinese school, was brought forward, not a word was said about Eurasians, and as a lengthy discussion appeared in the local Press, it seems very strange that no one should have raised an objection at the time. What motive your correspondent has in bringing the matter forward, I am at a total loss to understand. I agree with him that the Chinese in this Colony should be allowed the privilege of electing their representatives, provided that the men so elected bear unblemished reputations, and are approved by His Majesty's Government.—Yours, etc.,

SHE POSHAM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 7th June.

SIR.—Mr. Tse Tsan Tai's observations on the question of the Chinese representative on the Legislative Council do not express the sentiment and feeling of the Chinese community of the Colony; they are merely the individual opinion of his. The fact that Mr. Ho Tung was elected chairman of the Tung Wa Hospital and of the Chinese Club shows beyond doubt that he is held in the highest estimation by the Chinese community. He is respected by Chinese and Europeans alike and is, therefore, the fittest man to be the Chinese representative on the Legislative Council. The Chinese would much prefer to be represented by him as they have more confidence in him, well knowing that he is capable of looking after their interests, and is not likely to sit like an idol with his mouth shut.—Yours, etc.

LEUNG TIN CHEK.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 7th June.

SIR.—The letter above the name Tse Tsan Tai published in your issue of the 6th instant is so calculated to injure the good feeling and harmony existing between the Chinese and Eurasians in this Colony that it should not be passed over without comment. In the first place, let me point out, the letter was utterly uncalled for, inasmuch as there will be no vacancy on the Legislative Council for some time to come. But even supposing that the Hon. Wei A Ynk was going to resign, the selection of his successor will, as has always been the case, rest with the Government. The Chinese citizens of Hongkong have been noted for being always peaceful and law-abiding, and any attempt to agitate for a new departure from the general rule in the appointment of their representative will tend to affect the good order and well-being of this Colony and should not be tolerated for a moment. Even if the Chinese were to be left to make their own selection, they would, in all probability, nominate Mr. Ho Tung, whose ability, energy, popularity and public-spiritedness have endeared him to them. He has always been recognised by them as a member of their community, in proof of which he was elected to the Presidency of the Tung Wa Hospital in 1898 by an overwhelming majority, as well as the Chairmanship of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce and the Club and Vice-Chairmanship of the Po Leung Kuk. Mr. Tse Tsan Tai appears to be labouring under the self-delusion that he is echoing the sentiments of the Chinese community and championing their cause. Can you tell me, Mr. Editor, who is Tse Tsan Tai and what is his position and standing in this Colony?—Yours, etc.,

WONG CHUK YAU.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 7th June.

SIR.—With reference to the above subject, should the rumoured resignation of the Hon. Wei Ynk take place, the vacancy would most probably have to be filled up by another gentleman. As this person is to represent the Chinese community he should certainly be a Chinese and no other than a Chinese. The mere fact that some of the Eurasian gentlemen are admitted into Chinese society and accorded honourable positions in their benevolent and other institutions does not tend to show in the slightest degree that one of their number, however suitable, would be recognised by the Chinese as their representative in the Legislative Assembly. If an European of respectability and wealth were to-day to grow a queue, put on Chinese dress, adopt a proper Chinese name, enter no other but the Chinese society and subscribe liberally towards the support of their various institutions, in a few year's time he would doubtless find that the Chinese will respect and honour him just as much, if not more, than they do some of the prominent Eurasians of to-day. But, do you think, Mr. Editor, that such person would be eligible to represent the Chinese community? If so, then the Government might just as well appoint any respectable member of the European community, who has resided amongst the Chinese for some years and understands their views and needs, to represent them.

One of the principal reasons why the Chinese

have allowed the Eurasians to come into their society is that though they can distinguish them by their features to be Eurasians, still they dare not say whether their fathers were Chinese or not, for they have adopted as their surnames proper Chinese family names which can be traced two or three thousand years back. You must remember, Mr. Editor, that there are two kinds of Eurasians, one who are born of Chinese fathers and European or Eurasian mothers and the other who are born of European fathers and Chinese or Eurasian mothers. For better reference I will classify the former as A and the latter as B. According to Chinese social laws and customs Eurasians of class A, if their fathers had their names entered in the ancestral register, have as much right to be called Chinese as pure-born Chinese themselves; but those of class B are no more Chinese than they are Europeans. As it is almost impossible to tell by outward appearances to which of these two classes a Eurasian may belong, the Chinese have thought it wise and courteous to treat all Eurasians as belonging to class A.

With regard to Eurasians of class B in this Colony, many of them have adopted the dress and name of their fathers and it is a well-known fact that they will resent, with the bitterest feeling, to be called Eurasian, and much more so if they are called Chinamen. There is no obstacle, physical, moral, or otherwise, to prevent this class of Eurasian from dressing "European" and disclaiming or even despising the Chinese, if they wish so to do. It is well known amongst Chinese of the better classes that at the present moment there is a number of these men who were once in Chinese dress and professed to be Chinese, but who, being now in European dress have simply refused to have any further social intercourse with the Chinese and would consider it a great insult to be reminded that they were once in Chinese dress and had a Chinese name. As there is absolutely no guarantee against any Eurasian of this class from following the same example, is it not natural that the Chinese should like to have a bona-fide Chinese gentleman to be their representative rather than a Eurasian, however capable and good he may be?

Personally I greatly admire Mr. Ho Tung, not because of his wealth, mind you, but because of his pluck, abilities and gentlemanly character; and if he is a Eurasian of class A there cannot be the slightest objection to his being elected as a Chinese representative on the Legislative Council and it would be a distinct loss to the Chinese community should he be not selected.

It is certainly high time that the Chinese community, which is growing daily in numbers and importance, should be granted the privilege of selecting their own representative on the Legislative Council, as it is conducive to good and honest representation, which, I take it, is the aim of the Government. I beg to suggest that at the first opportunity the Chinese community should petition the Government for such a privilege. But whether or not such a privilege be granted, it is absolutely necessary that the Chinese should be represented by Chinese who not only have abilities and unblemished characters, but whose claims to be Chinese cannot for a single moment be contended. In conclusion, I should like to point out that of late the election of men to the chairmanship of the Tung Wa hospital has been carried out in a most ridiculous manner. Those who fight for that coveted honour greatly avail themselves of the services of coolies and such men as are not entitled to vote. Under these circumstances one cannot help doubting that those who are elected are not the most able and popular men amongst the leading Chinese in this Colony.—Yours, etc.,

JOHN CHINAMAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 9th June.

SIR.—I shall be greatly obliged if you will kindly grant space in your valuable paper for the enclosed.—Yours, etc.,

A CHINAMAN.

(Enclosure.)

TO THE CHINESE COMMUNITY OF HONGKONG.
My Brother Chinese and Fellow Countrymen—
as the public of Hongkong has for the last few days hotly discussed the question as to who would be the right man to represent us

on the Legislative Council, I think a few words from me would be of some use. Since we are not allowed to elect the two Members ourselves (as we ought to have been allowed) we should therefore be extremely careful in choosing one, if the Government allowed us to do so. We must not act according to the opinion of persons given us by the local papers, for if so we seem to have entirely no self-control of ourselves, as the persons appearing to be the fittest men to them might not appear to be so to us. So I think it would be the best that both the Nam Pak Hong and the Chau Tun Hong should take the matter up. We have the Tung Wa Hospital and the Chung Wa Club. They are the best places for public meetings and we should make use of them, and then let us call a public meeting and form a committee to appoint the right man to represent us on the Council, so that some of our brother Chinese may not growl even if our interests could not be properly looked after by the man so appointed. At present we cannot say that we are properly represented. The following words were heard spoken by a Chinese representative on the Legislative Council: "Although I could not properly look after the interest of my fellow-countrymen in the Council, yet I have not done anything to injure them." If such were the case we did not seem to have been represented at all. We want one to look after our interests, we do not want any one to injure us. At present the two gentlemen who are supposed to be our representatives do things at their own free will. They ought to call a public meeting and ask the opinion of their fellow-countrymen whom they represent, as how to go on with a thing first, before they speak for them. It won't do to sit still with folded arms to see things go on as they are. I do not mean to say that they are not fit for the Council, on the contrary they are the best men we can get at present, but we should remember that the knowledge of one or even two men is but limited. His Majesty the King acts through the advice of the Parliament; His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, on the advice of the Council. Why can we not do as they do? In conclusion, my fellow-countrymen, I trust you all will agree with me and say that unless something of the like is done we are not fully represented nor our interests properly looked after in the Colony, and in case the day should come when all of us are called upon to vote our representative on the Legislative Council, you should be careful in electing such a fearless and painstaking man to represent us as His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government said the Hon. T. H. Whitehead was.—Yours respectfully,

A FELLOW COUNTRYMAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 10th June.

SIR.—If I have rightly seized the spirit of Mr. Tse Tsan Tai's letter in your issue of the 8th of June, he advocates—I refrain from the word "agitate," for he distinctly denies being an agitator—he advocates, I repeat, the election by the Chinese community of a representative to the Legislative Council and impugns the hypothetical appointment by the Government of Mr. Ho Tung on the ground that he is an Eurasian. Now, may I ask who is Mr. Tse Tsan Tai and what is his birth? On what ground does he arrogate to himself the right of treating such a grave matter in a ponderous dogmatic tone? May I ask whether it is the Government, or the Chinese, or the community at large who have thought it fit to make nice distinctions between who is or who is not an Eurasian or whether such may or may not be appointed in the Legislative Council. I discern in his subtle letter, firstly, a direct attack against Mr. Ho Tung; secondly, a not less direct attack against the Eurasians. Is it not premature to speak of the Honourable Wei A Yuk's possible successor to his seat on the Legislative Council, and is it not still more untimely, under cloak of advocating a Chinese representative—whose name he has nevertheless not disclosed—to launch the attacks referred to?

There are virtually two classes of Chinese in our midst: British subjects and non-British subjects. The former owe allegiance to our

Gracious Majesty King Edward VII, the latter to His Majesty Kwang Hsu. To both are extended all the privileges of law and freedom, without distinction or partiality. Do the non-British subjects clamour for a representative to be elected by them? Anywise, the Government is sufficiently enlightened to dispense with Mr. Tse Tsan Tai's gratuitous advice and pronouncement, and I presume the majority of sensible persons will agree with me in thinking that we have not yet reached a turning point in our history when distinctions should be made in view of merely raising a "storm in a teacup." I will grant that Mr. Tse Tsan Tai is not an agitator, but, at the same time, I am uncompromisingly an anti-agitator.—Yours, &c.,

A BRITISH SUBJECT AND AN EURASIAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 11th June.

SIR.—Will you permit me to reply to Mr. Wong Chuk Yau's question in your issue of yesterday morning, as to "who Mr. Tse Tsan Tai is, and what is his position and standing in this Colony?" Mr. Tse Tsan Tai is a man of unblemished character, respectable, and as his letter shows, well educated. He may, not perhaps, be the possessor of millions, but that surely does not debar him from expressing his views on any subject he thinks fit, and especially on a matter which intimately concerns every Chinese in Hongkong, namely, the election, or nomination, of a Chinese representative to the Legislative Council.

I am sorry to confess that want of broad-mindedness, such as that shown by Mr. Wong Chuk Yau's question, has always been the misfortune of our community here; that when any one has the courage to show independence of character and is not a groveller after the "upper ten," there are those among us who, with their nose up in the air, question his standing. Such people evidently consider that they have a monopoly of all Chinese affairs, and that no one else outside their clique has a right to give an opinion. For my part, I consider Mr. Tse Tsan Tai as competent to speak for the community as Mr. Wong Chuk Yau.

As to the main question, I think there can be no two opinions that were Mr. Ho Tung, or any other Eurasian, elected or nominated the majority of the Chinese community would absolutely disown such a representative. I quite agree with Mr. Tse Tsan Tai, or for the matter of that with Mr. Wong Chuk Yau, that Mr. Ho Tung is to be greatly admired for his known liberality and large-heartedness, but that is beside the question.—Yours, etc.,

A MEMBER OF THE CHINESE COMMUNITY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 11th June.

SIR.—If "British Subject and an Eurasian" will read and inwardly digest my letter of the 3rd inst. (see *Daily Press* of the 6th inst.) he will find that I meant no offence whatever and merely referred to the principle of representative government. Again, I am not advocating any particular man as Chinese representative, as maliciously asserted by your anonymous correspondent, and I don't think it gentlemanly at all to make such an aspersion in an anonymous letter. If "British Subject and an Eurasian," whoever he is, is so anxious to know who I am, let him make enquiries, and I am sure he will soon find out. I can afford to treat his and Wong Chuk Yau's personal remarks with contempt. I very much regret that the anonymous correspondence of a few "hotheads" has created such a hubbub.—Yours, etc.,

TSE TSAN TAI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 12th June.

SIR.—I was very interested in the letter signed "John Chinaman" which appeared in your issue on the 10th instant, and if the writer will kindly give his name, and if I find that he is a man of standing, I shall be happy to reply to the points which he has raised.—Yours, etc.,

SHI CHAN KWONG.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND BUILDING BILL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 13th June.

SIR.—After a careful scrutiny of the covering letter of our Experts and the principal sections of this Amalgamated Bill which will shortly be introduced into the Legislative Council, it is found that this Bill is only another attempt to tinker sanitation. Our Experts state that this Bill might reasonably be expected to obviate the necessity for further sanitary legislation "for the next few years at least." While advocating wider streets, larger back-yards and scavenging lanes, our Experts are contented, with regard to setting back of buildings in narrow private streets, not to go beyond the law of 1889, which requires an open space of 7½ feet at least, as measured from the middle of the lane or street, to be left in front of any such new building. Although a compensation clause for resuming insanitary blocks of buildings is introduced with a view to buying up the worst class of insanitary properties gradually, our Experts prefer to allow houses in narrow lanes or streets to remain, until such time when these houses have to be re-erected, under the provisions of this new Bill, but without giving any compensation to owners of such properties. Their logical argument, that "the right of an owner of property to re-erect dwellings of an insanitary type because his present dwellings are insanitary should not be admitted," may sound correct, but the fault of erecting these insanitary dwellings rests not on the shoulders of the owners but on the Colonial Government alone. This class of houses have been built and the lanes and streets laid out in conformity with the existing building ordinances of the day, and with the approval and sanction of the Government, who are now advised not to give any compensation for setting back such houses or widening the streets and remodelling them, should occasion arise to benefit the Colony generally, at the sole sacrifice of the owners of such properties. If the Government on the sale of a piece of land had prohibited the erection of these houses in narrow streets, which up to a year or two back were not pronounced to be insanitary, and owners, in spite of such prohibition, erected these houses, then no sympathy should be extended to such owners. If on the other hand the blame rests with or even is shared by the Government, then fair play and justice should be extended to these loyal subjects. There are houses in narrow lanes or streets 30 feet deep and if a back-yard 15 feet, a scavenging lane 5 feet, and a kitchen 5 feet are taken away, there only remains 4 feet, which is further taken up by the thickness of the cross walls, and nothing, not an inch of accommodation space, is left—a total loss to owners of such properties. This would be an absolute confiscation of vested interests. In all English laws compensation is given for every inch of land sacrificed by owners to improve the sanitation of the place. Again it is greatly to be deplored that houses of this description in narrow lanes are allowed to exist until re-erection through age or other causes which might take perhaps fifty years or until further sanitary legislation. When the last Bill was before the Council in March last, and it was withdrawn, it was generally understood that the present one would be final—not for a few years only. It has been believed that this Bill would deal and tackle with all insanitary properties, making a last effort to put this prosperous Colony into a pucca sanitary port, once for all.

As regards compensation for resumption of properties, it would be advisable, in order to prevent owners to be overpaid, to formulate claims on present rentals, as assessed during the last two months, on the basis ranging from 8 per cent. to 12 per cent. capitalisation. Properties situated at West Point can now be purchased on 12 per cent. net outlay. Should rentals during resumption be taken as a criterion to base compensation, many abuses might be created and rents would be increased from block to block of buildings.

As this Bill covers 93 pages of Gazette and

will be before the Council very soon, it is fervently hoped that all the Unofficial Members of Council would lose no time in going through this Bill, a combination of two lengthy Bills, and meet together and discuss it clause by clause, allowing no tinkering whatever.

It has been suggested that a loan of \$10,000,000 raised locally on silver basis at 5 per cent. to 6 per cent. interest would suffice for the whole sale resumption of insanitary properties; and it has also been suggested that only a minor portion of this vast sum of money will be lost to the Colony, as a greater portion of it will be recovered through re-sales of the improved resummed areas. Taking it for granted that half of this sum is lost, with the Colony's surplus revenue—\$1,000,000 annually—and with increased taxation, this loan will not take many years to be wiped off.—Yours, etc.,

AHMET RUMJAHN.

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 9th June.

IN ADMIRALTY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THEIR HONOURS W. MEIGH GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND T. SECORKE SMITH (ACTING PUISNE JUDGE).

"TAI CHEO G" v. "SKRAMSTAD."

This was a motion for leave to appeal against the decision of the Lower Court in the *Skramstad* collision case, in which judgment was given in favour of the *Skramstad*.

The nautical assessors were Commander George W. W. Dawes of H.M. Naval Yard and Mr. Richard Unsworth, master mariner.

Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. H. L. Dennys, of Messrs. Dennys & Bowley, solicitors), appeared on behalf of the *Tai Cheong*; Mr. T. Morgan Phillips, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. G. C. C. Master, of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes & Master, solicitors), on behalf of the *Skramstad*; and Mr. E. H. Sharp, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. V. Deacon, of Messrs. Deacon & Hastings, solicitors), watched the case on behalf of the *Perla*.

Mr. Slade stated that before referring to the case he would ask their Lordships' permission to, if necessary, call a witness to prove the distance from the Metropole Hotel to Braemar Point. As their Lordships would remember, the judgment of Mr. Justice Wise very largely turned upon the evidence of a first-class petty officer of H.M.S. *Humber* who stated that he was lying 100 yards from the hotel and from that point rowed to the ship. But as no evidence appeared on the notes as to the distance from the Metropole Hotel to Braemar Point he wished to call evidence on that matter.

Mr. T. Morgan Phillips said he objected on principle to any further evidence being called. Their Lordships well knew that leave could only be granted on special grounds. He was not quite sure what evidence was proposed to be called, but he objected to it on principle.

The Chief Justice said they had better go on until they heard something about it.

Mr. Slade, after referring to the appeal case *Coghlan v. Cumberland*, Ch. 91, c. 704, stated that the rules as to appeal here and at home were the same—order 58, rule 4.

The Chief Justice asked whether it was his intention to argue upon the evidence and upon the decision of the Lower Court and then to bring some additional evidence?

Mr. Slade replied that that was his intention.

The Chief Justice also asked whether Mr. Slade had considered the question whether the Admiralty rules were the same as in other appeals.

Mr. Slade said they were under the same rules.

The Chief Justice remarked that he only mentioned these matters because he was not aware that they had had an Admiralty appeal since the Code. Under the Admiralty rules the Full Court had full discretionary power to receive evidence upon questions of fact.

Mr. Slade further submitted that he would endeavour—he hoped successfully—to show that the reasons given by the learned Judge who tried the case in the Court below for the judgment he found were untenable on the

evidence; they were not in accordance with the evidence. If he showed that the reasons given by the learned Judge were wrong, the inference was that his Lordship had not properly treated the evidence and that his judgment was unsound; and then their Lordships would be thrown back upon a re-hearing of the evidence which was before them. Mr. Slade went on to discuss the evidence originally given in the case.

The case continued on Tuesday and Wednesday.

CORONATION CELEBRATION FUND.

The Hon. Treasurer begs to acknowledge with thanks receipt of the following subscriptions:

Already Acknowledged \$17,335

Hongkong and Whampoa	
Dock Co., Ltd.	500
Nippon Yusen Kaisha	250
Lane, Crawford & Co.	250
Yokohama Specie Bank, Ltd.	250
Eastern Extension Telegraph Co.	200
W. B. Dixon	100
Ahmed Rumjahu	100
22nd Bombay Infantry (Officers and Men)	100
W. J. Saunders	100
Linstead & Davis	50
V. A. Caesar Hawkins	50
Hon. T. H. Whitehead	50
Henry Oliver	25
J. C. Peter	25
H. W. Buckland	25
W. A. Cruickshank	20
G. W. Parr	15
Kenneth McK. Ross	15
J. Barton	15
C. W. May	15
Neuman Mumford	15
Hongkong Regiment:—	
British Officers	45
Native Officers	33
Rank and File	155.85
Royal Welsh Fusiliers Mount	
Austin Barracks	25.04
Native Officers, N.C.O.'s & Gunners, No. 1 Co. H.K. S. Bat. R.A.	15
Base Post Office, British Contingent, China Field Force:—	
H. J. Morehouse	10
A. Alvarez	3
P. J. Rodrigues	2
Munshi Alla Din	4
" Fa'eh Mahomed	2
Babu D. N. Banerjee	3
" Bodh Raj	2.50
" Achru Mall	2
4 Menials	1.50
Lieut.-Col. Ferrier, A.P.D.	3
Major Denny, D.A.A.G.	3
Capt. Benson, A.P.D.	3
Capt. Hewett, A.P.D.	3
Major Hamilton, D.A.A.G.	3
Major Buttonsaw	3
Colonel Wheeler, A.O.D.	3
Capt. Trefusis, A.D.C.	3
Supreme Court:—	
Mr. Justice Wise	25
G. H. Wakeman	20
J. W. Norton-Kyshe	10
A. Seth	5
C. J. Xavier	5
Leo. D'Almada e Castro	5
Li Hong Mi	2
A. B. Suffiad	2
George Thomas	2
Subscriptions under \$2	3
Land Court, New Territory:—	
H. H. J. Gompertz	10
E. D. C. Wolfe	7.50
J. R. Wood	7.50
S. B. C. Ross	7.50
S. R. Moore	3
Subscriptions under \$2	6
Audit Department:—	
B. E. Hanson	10
C.S.O. (additional):—	
F. Rapp	2
P.W.D. (additional):—	
J. F. Boulton	20
J. B. Mudie	10
I. A. Remedios	3
H. Gower	3
T. Olsen	2
A. F. Smith	2

Registrar-General's Office:—

A. W. Brewin	10
E. R. Hallifax	10
J. J. Bullin	5
Wong Ponang	1
Wong Tak Shu	1
Schools:—	
T. W. Pearce	5
Mrs. Bateman	5
B. James	5
W. Curwen	5
Sanitary Board:—	
G. A. Woodcock	5
Dr. Francis Clark	5
Dr. Wilfrid W. Pearce	5
J. J. Brayan	5
Adam Gibson	5
Harbour Office:—	
Hon. R. Murray Rumsey	25
Basil Taylor	20
Jas. Macdonald	10
William A. Crake	10
J. L. de Selavissa Alves	5
W. Orohar	5
M. McIver	5
A. P. Gutierrez	5
E. J. Meugens	5
J. Livesey	5
G. F. Taylor	5
A. C. Botelho	3
F. Place da Silva	2
Lo Sing Lan	2
F. Collaco	2
Subscriptions under \$2	10
Medical Department:—	
Dr. J. M. Atkinson	25
E. A. R. Laing	10
Frank Browne	10
Dr. John C. Thomson	10
Robt. Chapman	5
Nursing Sisters, G.C.H.	20
J. R. Lee	2
Charles F. O'Brien	2
W. J. R. McKay	2
Jen Hawk	7
Subscriptions under \$2	7
R. T. Wright	10
P. A. Barlow	10
H. E. Morris	10
R. Edwards	10
A. Sharp	10
H. W. Fraser	10
E. Deacon	10
W. G. Worcester	10
W. R. Lemaire	10
J. A. Woodgates	10
D. Macdonald	10
A. R. Grieve	10
G. C. Anderson	10
A. Rodger	10
L. J. C. Anderson	5
W. C. D. Turner	5
R. E. N. Ladfield	5
Wm. Inglis	5
O. J. Barnes	5
E. M. Knox	5
A. Boyd	5
B. C. M. Johnston	5
H. C. Sandford	5
G. H. Ardron	5
A. B. Lowson	5
A. R. Fullerton	5
James D. Danby	5
E. Burns-Pye	5
Geo. Grimble	5
W. C. Barrett	5
C. H. Blason	5
Walter H. Howard	5
G. H. Edwards	5
Harold W. Merrill	5
H. M. Webb	5
A. R. Lowe	5
G. M. Young	5
J. H. R. Hance	5
H. Burton	5
H. D. Bell	5
N. S. Brown	5
W. G. Clarke	5
A. E. Griffin	5
Sidney G. Powell	5
J. H. Seth	5
Joseph Wm. Crouch	5
H. M. Scott	5
J. Blake	5
Jas. Lockhead	5
Geo. A. Buckland	5
Hugh Arthur	5
C. G. Danby	5

Meyer & Co.	\$250
Kelly & Walsh, Ltd.	100
W. G. Humphreys & Co.	100
A. B. Marty	100
Osaka Shoson Kaisha	100
Dra. Jordan, Swan, and Gibson	75
Turner & Co.	50
A. H. Rennie	50
D. S. Dady Burjor	50
G. W. F. Playfair	25
A. Chee & Co.	25
A. G. Gordon	25
Mowbray S. Northcote	15
B. Brotherton Harker	10
W. H. Percival	10
Wm. Humphreys	10
Rev. J. H. France	10
Lau Chu Pak	10
H. P. White	10
Hon. A. M. Thomson	10
N. G. Evans	10
C. H. Grace	10
Ho Kom Ton	10
A. Brooke Smith	5
P. L. Jameson	5
R. S. Piercy	5
E. C. Emmett	5
C. W. Richards	5
A. Sinclair	5
E. E. Andrus	5
J. Galbreath	5
T. Banks	5
J. Dickie	5
W. G. Roberts	5
Choa Leep Chee	5
H. Shoolbred	5
Madame Lucia V. Peralta	5
A. Richards	5
J. S. Hagen	5
W. D. Sutton	5
A. P. Nobbs	5
T. P. Cochrane	5
H. M. S. Man	5
John A. Ross	5
H. W. Fortesque	5
C. B. Edmondston	5
H. F. Chard	5
Jorge & Co.	5
Le Cheung Shiu	5
James R. Symington	3
F. E. Shuster	3
R. Aitken	3
A. E. Blake	3
R. A. Ferguson	3
A. McKirdy	3
T. Grimshaw	3
W. Smith	3
T. Hoskins	3
F. McRobie	3
P. Plage	3
J. McCriquodale	3
C. Lee	3
J. D. Kinnaird	2
J. M. T. Baillie	2
J. Glyn	2
James D. Osmund	2
J. W. Stewart	2
Choa Choo Boon	2
Subscriptions under \$2	2
	\$21,883.39

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

CAPTAIN'S CUP AND SILVER MEDAL FOR JUNE.
The recent floods at Happy Valley had worked such havoc with the course that a good score was out of the question. The following were the cards returned:—

CAPTAIN'S CUP.

Mr. E. J. Grist	93	5	88	2
Dr. R. Gibson	103	15	88	2
Mr. W. D. Kraft	115	15	100	

16 entries.

POOL.

Mr. C. W. Dickson	103	22	81
Mr. C. H. P. Hay	102	20	82
Mr. E. J. Grist	93	5	88
Com. H. J. Davison, R.N.	103	18	90
Mr. W. D. Kraft	115	15	100

15 entries.

According to the *Echo de Chine* of the 5th inst., Colonel Valette will depart for France by the next mail, leaving Shanghai. General Lefebvre replaces General Sucillon up north.

TROUBLES ON THE HUPEH-HUNAN BORDER.

The *N.-C. Daily News* says that, as it has already noted, the insurrection in several cities of Honan, touching the Hupeh frontiers, has also penetrated across the border and that a brigade of Viceroy Chang Chih-tung's troops unexpectedly fled before the insurgent banners. It now transpires from official sources, says our contemporary, that the reason of this cowardly conduct of the Chienwu Brigade was owing to the fact that the majority of the men were natives of Honan and hence refused to shoot their fellow-provincials, many of whom were their relatives and kinsmen. Viceroy Chang is, however, quite alive to the danger of the crisis and has ordered General Teng, the Provincial Commander-in-Chief of Hupeh, to mobilise a large force in all haste and lead the troops in person to Tsacyang and Suichou, the region invaded by the Honan insurgents.

Chang Chih-tung recently telegraphed to Liu Kung-yi to the effect that, as he had to send a regiment of the Hupeh troops northward to drive out or suppress insurgents who are reported to have intruded into Hupeh from South Honan, he was obliged to apply to H.E. Liu for a supply of fire-arms and ammunitions from the Kiangnan Arsenal. In compliance with the request Liu despatched the Chinese gunboat, *Tengyingchou* to Shanghai to get the required supply from the Arsenal and convey it to Wuchang.

PEACE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

VARIOUS OPINIONS.

According to a Berlin telegram, the entire European Press is rejoicing at the suspension of hostilities in South Africa. All exchanges show a rising tendency.

The Japanese Press is stated to be profoundly gratified at the Peace. The leading journals, says the Tokyo correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News*, allude in glowing terms to the display of the vast resources of the British nation, her calm courage in the face of adversity, her unflinching resolution to convert disaster into triumph, and her absolutely unembarrassed condition at the close of the struggle which lasted nearly three years. Such an exhibition of national strength is unprecedented in the history of the world. The papers say that these fine moral qualities constitute the true foundation of British resources, and hope the Japanese people will endeavour to imitate them. They also allude in terms of high eulogy to the courage and endurance of the Boers, whose heroic bravery and tenacity of purpose confronted immense odds, and render the final surrender not humiliation but a triumph. They earnestly hope that the Boers will now be converted into brave friends, as Lord Rosebery indicated. The Japanese papers congratulate themselves as an ally that England's hands are now free to pursue elsewhere a vigorous policy of peace and free commercial expansion, and they regard thankfully the fact that Powers which were disposed to derive a selfish advantage from their neighbour's embarrassment are now prevented from interfering by England's tact and firm front.

The *Echo de Chine*, Shanghai, published an able editorial article on the Peace news. The writer, while still holding to his opinion that the war was one of unjustifiable aggression, says, that all Frenchmen are united in praising both British and Boers for their bravery and courage throughout the conflict, and that in France there will be all the greater pleasure and rejoicing over the Coronation of King Edward VII on account of the part the King has played in the final settlement of the terms of peace.

On the other hand, the *Courrier d'Haiphong*, as might have been expected of such a journal, takes refuge in abuse of Great Britain. "This Peace," says our southern contemporary, "ends the most shameful of wars, which has caused Chamberlain's England to be banned by all the nations. Undertaken on a contemptible pretext, which disguised the lowest desires, it has at last reached an end, after having flooded with blood for the space of three years the whole of South Africa. It will have cost England

5,000,000,000 francs and some hundred thousand lives. It will have cost her still more dearly, for everlasting dishonour is the lot of Albion." We may note the curious fact that the name "Albion" seems to be the deadliest of insults, though we do not know why. The amiable sheet which distorts affairs for the Haiphong residents continues by saying that "Chamberlain" (not Mr., nor even "Sir Chamberlain") "made no answer to those who pointed out that peace negotiations were entered upon at the very moment when the enemy had first won his most startling successes," etc., etc. "This silence," says the *Courrier*, "leaves us room for hope. There will be no absolute independence. That was not existent before, and the Boers did not claim in the strict sense which we attach to the word. But we wish to believe that from this peace will spring at last the recognition of the right to live of a people which has almost died for liberty." "L. G.", the writer of the article in question, will no doubt rejoice to see that the Boers are apparently quite reconciled to the idea of living—as members of the British Empire, renouncing that "liberty" for which L. G. has been so willing to shed his ink.

THE POSITION IN MANCHURIA.

A letter from Peking published in the *Mainichi* gives the following as the remarks of a gentleman who is credited to be well informed regarding affairs in Manchuria, having travelled extensively in the country:—

One might imagine oneself in Japan, he says, when passing villages in the neighbourhood of railway stations between Port Arthur and Harbin, so many Japanese are there to be seen. At Harbin the number of Japanese residents exceeds five hundred, and most of these are engaged in superintending their own businesses. Many of them are gentlemen. The Japanese have their hospital, club, and other social and public institutions, and the condition of the Japanese settlement is in no way inferior to that where Englishmen or Germans reside. There are at least ten villages where the Japanese number from 100 to 300 of the population. The Russian army and the railway service are chiefly obtaining their supplies of daily necessities, such as wines, tobacco, boots, washing and all provisions from the Japanese. Laundry-men receive the cost of fuel from the Russian Government Office and the Railway Office, and thus are able to undertake the washing of the Japanese residents very cheaply. The *Mitsui Bussan Kaisha* at Port Arthur has contracted to supply a large quantity of coal to the Russian squadron for a number of years to come, and the extensive works undertaken at Dalny afford a good field for Japanese contractors, while lumber required for the construction of the East China Railway is being supplied by Japanese. As to the trade with the Chinese in Manchuria, oil-cake, one of the principal products in Manchuria, can be had at low prices, as the Chinese there are not so much advanced in methods of trade as their brethren of Kwangtung or Fukien in South China. As for the Russians they are chiefly unproductive soldiers and Government officials. At present very few Russians have come from European Russia who can cope with the Japanese merchants in business. A Russian recently remarked that it will take a hundred years before the Russians from Europe will settle in Manchuria. While this cannot be taken altogether as accurate, there is some truth in the statement. Manchuria furnishes the Japanese with a paradise in which to live. The antipathy of the Japanese for the Russians has a political origin, but the Russian people themselves are sociable and free of guile. It is strange (concludes this traveller) that Japanese, alarmed at the rapid increase of population in Japan, the increase of administrative expenditure, and the depression of trade, do not remember the existence of a paradise where they can make their fortunes, the land of Eastern Siberia and Manchuria, separated only by a small gulf from the Japanese island! It is (he urges) a serious mistake on the part of the Japanese to be averse to the Russians and neglect to make friends with them socially and economically, so as to promote the interests of the empire.

HONGKONG.

The recognition of Mr. H. N. Mody as Acting Consul-General for Siam at Hongkong, during the absence of the Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., is notified in the *Gazette*.

Mr. E. F. Skerfvel, late editor of the *Hongkong Telegraph*, left this Colony on the 6th inst. to take up the editorship of the *Penang Gazette*. Mr. Skerfvel has been for five years engaged in editing the *Telegraph*, and his numerous friends in Hongkong will wish him all success in his new appointment. His position on our evening contemporary's staff will be filled by Mr. E. A. Snewin.

H.E. the General Officer Commanding having intimated his intention to present the South African medal to Colour-Sergeant H. J. Morehouse on Saturday, the 21st inst., at Headquarters, there will be a parade of the Volunteer Corps on that date, instead of on Saturday last. His Excellency will also present H.E. the Governor's Shield to "B" Machine Gun Company. Colour-Sergeant Morehouse saw service in South Africa as a trooper in Lumsden's Horse.

The concert which took place on the 9th inst. in the hall of the Catholic Union was very successful. It is to be regretted that there was not a larger audience to appreciate the excellent programme submitted by Mr. L. A. Graça; yet though the audience was small, it was none the less appreciative, judging by the numerous encores which greeted each item on the programme. It is difficult to mention any one in particular, as every item was executed well. The string band conducted by Mr. Graça gave two pieces which were received with acclamation. Messrs. A. Cunningham and W. J. Terrill, who sang for the first time in this hall, were also encored for their songs. The concert was enjoyable in spite of the oppressive heat. The following ladies acted as accompanists: Mrs. M. F. da Silva, Miss Marques da Silva, and Miss Ley Kum; Mr. Emil Danenberg also gave his help as accompanist, besides playing a pianoforte solo.

As was only to be looked for, numerous landslips and small collapses, the result of the extremely heavy rain of the past three days, are reported in many parts of the Colony. In Seymour Road part of a retaining wall fell, and a bamboo fencing had to be erected on account of the danger to passengers. Traffic in Po Yan Street, near the Tung Wa Hospital, is stopped by a large hole, a trench almost, that has been scooped out in the roadway by the heavy wash, and this is also the case in Caine Road near the Hon. C. P. Chater's house. From the higher levels comes the report that a landslip has occurred at the junction of Peak and Robinson Roads, where also another retaining wall fell, causing damage, which has since been repaired, to a street gas-lamp. In Queen's Road Central, in the immediate vicinity of Peel Street, a dangerous excavation has been temporarily covered by the police. Besides one or two small landslips at Victoria Peak, numerous similar happenings are reported from Kowloon and the New Territory, but particulars regarding them are not yet to hand.

A correspondent writes:—While on a walking expedition in the New Territory on the 8th inst. I was grieved to see that there had been wanton destruction done among the young pines in the mountain-side facing Hongkong. Unfortunately I cannot tell the name of the particular locality where their destruction seemed to have been most rife. But on coming down the hill I discovered where the saplings had been taken to. This was a little village situated among paddy-fields and (so far as I could understand the native of whom I made enquiry) called Kowloon Tsai or Tsun. It has a direct communication off the New Road with Yaumati from which it is distant about twenty-five minutes' walk. Here I saw to my astonishment some 200 young, freshly-cut fir-trees exposed on the paddy-threshing-floors, apparently to dry. They were mixed with shrubs and grasses as they lay. It is no doubt a difficult matter for the police in such outlying districts to entirely prevent such depredations, but I am sure they only require to be told of the matter to do their best to put a stop to this painful spoliation of the Afforestation Department's young shoots and to suitably punish the offenders.

The controversy in the correspondence columns of the local Press over the question of Chinese representation on the Legislative Council, which started on the assumption that the Hon. Wei A Yuk did not intend to accept another term of office, is deprived of more than an academic interest for the present by the fact that Mr. Wei A Yuk has yielded to representations and allowed himself to be nominated again an Unofficial Member of the Legislative Council.

The following returns of the average amount of bank-notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong during April, are certified by the managers of the respective banks:—

Banks.	Average	Specie in	Reserve.
	Amount.	\$	\$
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.....	3,180,258	1,700,000	
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.....	8,281,554	5,000,000	
National Bank of China, Limited.....	436,724	150,000	
Total.....	\$11,898,536	\$6,850,000	

A smoking concert was held on the 7th inst. under the auspices of the Victoria Recreation Club, in the Club's gymnasium, Kowloon, which was specially fitted up for the occasion. The "Snowball" Minstrel Troupe supplied the first part of the programme very acceptably. Part II. contained four very good items—a baritone song by Mr. C. W. Marshall, a comic song by Mr. M. D. Silas, a clarionette and a cornet solo by R.W.F. bandmen. The entertainment concluded with the sketch *A Troublesome Servant*. Mr. T. H. Reid was in the chair. Messrs. C. W. Marshall and M. D. Silas were the accompanists.

On the 6th inst. the German gunboat *Luchs* arrived from Nagasaki, while the same nation's gunboat *Tiger* left for Kiaochau.

The German transport *Main*, en route to Kiaochau, left the harbour early on the 10th inst.

The first-class cruiser *Endymion*, Capt. A. W. Paget, C.M.G., which arrived on Wednesday from Nagasaki, will leave next Wednesday for home on the expiry of her term on this station. The *Endymion*, we are informed, will take part in the Coronation celebrations at Singapore.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Federated Malay States Public Works departmental report for 1901 has been published. The total expenditure in the department during the year was \$3,792,737; and, exclusive of federal charges, the cost of the establishment, paid locally, was \$243,187, being 6.41 per cent of the actual expenditure. The length of the roads taken in hand was over 2,00 miles.

The typhoon announced by the weather bureau struck the island Sunday afternoon, says the *Manila Times* of the 2nd inst. After a drenching downpour, which lasted all the latter half of the afternoon and well into the evening, the rain ceased, to be followed towards midnight by a high wind. Several coconuts were thrown upon the Luneta beach, as well as a number of logs which had the appearance of having been torn from some raft. The accident to the Hongkong cable, it is believed, may be due to some ship dragging its anchor on account of the violence of the gale. The break was discovered Saturday night. There are two cable boats in Oriental waters, but just at present it is not known exactly where they are. The cable company was also incommunicado yesterday on account of the telephone wire being down.

Saigon is now suffering from an epidemic of cholera and scores of deaths are reported daily. Some of the districts are, of course, affected much worse than others, but it is said that no part of the town or its immediate suburbs is free. Smallpox is also rife, and this, together with recurrent visitations of dengue fever, make the place none too pleasant to reside in. When the French cruiser *Pascal* returned to Saigon with cholera cases on board, the old battleship *Boyard*, the corvette *Vipere*, and several small gunboats were rapidly converted into floating hospitals. Up to 28th May, one hundred and eleven cases had been reported, according to one account, the captain of the *Pascal* finding himself so short-handed as not to be able to proceed to Pulo Condor, as suggested by Admiral Marechal, whilst up to the evening of the 27th ult. there had been 26 deaths.

A telegram has been received in Shanghai from Chungking, dispatched by the Chungking Trading Co., to the effect that the "Kinsella" arrived on the 31st May, and the chief engineer reports on 100 tons of Chungking coal that it is fully equal to 150 tons of best Japanese.

The Tientsin *Je Je* reports that, owing to the strong opposition on the part of the Russian and German Ministers at Peking, Sir E. Satow has been obliged to agree to an amendment of the third article of the Peking-Shanhaikwan Railway Agreement that a British Military Officer be appointed as co-director of the railway.

The East Asiatic Trading Co. has courteously informed us that they received on the 10th inst. the following telegram from Saigon:—"The a.s. *Picciola* has been in collision with the a.s. *Sirius*. The *Picciola* was at anchor at the time of collision, was struck about midships, very severely damaged and commenced to leak; the damage is not ascertained yet; she will be obliged to dock."

Mr. G. T. Hare, Secretary for Chinese Affairs, Federated Malay States, has returned from Weihaiwei, and will resume his work at Kuala Lumpur. An opinion pretty generally expressed at Singapore is that Mr. Hare would be exceedingly valuable in the Straits Police and Chinese Protectorate, as a permanent official fighting against Chinese criminals.

The news of the conclusion of peace was received very quietly in Singapore. The flag-staffs were decked, and the men-of-war ran flags up to the mast-head. One or two godowns displayed flags, as did the flagstaff of Fort Canning, but the general feeling was that the actual conclusion of what had been seen to be for some days a certainty did not call for any great demonstration.

Count von Bülow, in answer to a question of a representative of the Paris *Figaro* (which is very busy interviewing just now), asking if Germany would join either the Franco-Russian or the British-Japanese Combination in East Asia or would create herself a new combination with America, said: "For what purpose? Peace is assured, and we shall have all the profit therefrom. We shall be always on the side of those who will defend the peace against any peace-breaker."

The Grand Duke Boris Vladimirovitch visited Admiral Marechal on the *Redoutable* at Saigon on the 2nd inst. After this a luncheon at the official residence of Cochin-China was held, at which were present the Lieutenant-Governor, the Grand Duke and suite, and the officers of the Siamese gunboat *Mong-Ka Baja-Kumar*. After lunch and a visit to the hospital and barracks, the Grand Duke saw off the Siamese gunboat, which returned to Bangkok. After a few more days' stay the Russian visitor left Saigon on the 9th by the *Kersaint* for Haiphong and Hanoi. After his visit to these places he will come on to Hongkong on the *Kersaint*.

It is feared that the Siamese despatch-boat *Chamroen* has foundered in the Gulf of Siam on the voyage from Singora to Bangkok. There were forty-seven persons on board all told, and it is believed that the vessel has gone down with all hands. It appears that the *Chamroen* was bringing to Bangkok from Singora a cargo of roofing-tiles! She left Singora on the 3rd ult., and should have accomplished the passage in about 2½ days. As a despatch-boat, fifteen years of age, she was scarcely fitted for carrying tiles, and it is probable that they went through her bottom. The lost vessel was a twin-screw sloop of 418 registered tons, built at Leith, in bad repair, and had no European officer on board at the time of the calamity.

In the 1902 edition of the *Naval Annual*, the writer of the chapter on Gunnery says:—There can be no doubt of the pre-eminence of the *Terrible*. Her 9-in. guns, being on mountings special to her particular type of ship, cannot be compared as regards rate of fire with any other gun, but one round per minute was considered good when these guns were first tried; this has been increased by 75 per cent. The percentage of hits is the highest for heavy guns. With 6-in. Q.F. guns, the *Terrible*'s record of 428 hits per minute is as nearly as possible four times the average, and stands far above every other ship. The best gun in the *Terrible* fired 11 rounds in two minutes, or against 700 the average for the service, and made 11 hits, about five times the usual number.

The number of cases of cholera occurring at Manila during the 24 hours ended 8 a.m. on the 4th instant was 11, with 7 deaths, bring the total number of cases up to 1,230, with 988 deaths.

The balance-sheet of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha at the half-yearly meeting in Tokyo on the 28th ult. shows that the gross profits for the half-year ending 31st March, 1902, were 3,497,497 yen.

A court-martial, composed of a Major-General as President and four other officers of high rank, was convened at the Circuit Military Court, Vladivostock, on the 14th ult., to try a band of nine men, on charges of plundering and murdering Europeans and Asiatics in the district. After the examination of sixty-nine witnesses who appeared for the prosecution, the proceedings terminated on the 19th with speeches for the defence and prosecution. After a deliberation of six hours, the Court brought in a verdict that six of the accused be hanged, while the remainder, owing to lack of evidence, were liberated. The men are all ex-convicts from the island of Sakhalin, whence some of them escaped previous to the expiration of their term of penal servitude.

The *Indian Textile Journal* for May, discussing a letter from Mr. T. W. Kingsmill in the *Shanghai Mercury* on the *lekin* and tariff question, says:—"Mr. Kingsmill's writings are highly appreciated by all who take any interest in the affairs of China, while his style, even not at his best, is lucid and comprehensive. He differs from the opinion of Sir Thomas Jackson (Chief Manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank), who spoke out very clearly at the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce and gave his personal opinion as to the value of the guarantee of the abolishment of *lekin* as being his strong belief in the far-reaching power of the Chinese Government—a guarantee which a Hongkong contemporary" [the *Daily Press*—Ed.] "considers feeble and unconvincing to most men in China. The manner in which Mr. Kingsmill deals with his subject and the intimate knowledge he reveals of the circumstance connected with the *lekin* question stamp his contribution with a special merit all its own, and ranks it as the best pronouncement on the proposed surtax in lieu of *lekin*, so far made, perhaps, in any newspaper." It will be remembered that another letter by Mr. Kingsmill on the same subject appeared in our columns on the 3rd ult.

COMMERCIAL.

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 13th June.—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 13th June.—The position of the market is nearly the same as when last reported. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White	\$8.25 to \$8.30	per cwt.
do, 2, White	7.00 to 7.05	"
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown	6.00 to 6.10	"
do, 2, Brown	5.80 to 5.85	"
Swatow, No. 1, White	8.15 to 8.20	"
Swatow, No. 1, White	6.92 to 6.98	"
do, 1, Brown	5.80 to 5.88	"
do, 2, Brown	5.70 to 5.75	"
Foochow Sugar Candy	12.10 to 12.15	"
Shekloong	9.90 to 9.95	"

RICE.

HONGKONG, 13th June.—There is not much change in the prices and the market is firm. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$3.15 to 3.20
Round, Good quality	8.95 to 4.00
Long	4.12 to 4.15
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	3.35 to 3.40
Garden, No. 1	3.80 to 3.85
White	4.20 to 4.25
Fine Cargo	4.35 to 4.40

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 13th June.—Amongst the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—Bombay Yarn: 150 bales No. 6 at \$82.50 to \$83.850 bales No. 10 at \$90 to \$97, 450 bales No. 12 at \$95 to \$99, 400 bales No. 16 at \$98 to \$115, 1,050 bales No. 20 at \$112 to \$121. White Shirtings: 250 pieces x9 at \$8.10, 250 pieces x9 at \$8.10, 250 pieces x9 at \$8.15. Red Shirtings: 500 pieces 21 lbs. 7. Mandarin at \$1.55.

	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.	\$84.00 to \$128.00
English—Nos. 18 to 24	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24	120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32	136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42	155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS—

	per piece
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.20 to 2.30
7 lbs.	2.35 to 2.60
8.4 lbs.	3.10 to 3.65
9 to 10 lbs.	3.80 to 5.00
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.60 to 2.90
58 to 60 "	3.25 to 4.40
64 to 66 "	4.50 to 5.30
Fine	5.50 to 7.75
Book-folds	4.50 to 6.95
Victoria Lawns—12 yards	0.75 to 1.40
T-Cloths—6 lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	1.85 to 2.10
7 lbs. (32 ")	2.15 to 2.45
6 lbs. (32 ")	2.20 to 2.35
7 lbs. (32 ")	2.95 to 3.50
8 to 8.4 oz. (36 in.)	3.20 to 3.70
Drills, English—40 yds.	13 to 14 lbs.
	4.50 to 6.90

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—11 to 14 lbs.	1.65 to 5.50
------------------------------------	--------------

BRUCADES—

Chintzes—Assorted	0.48 to 0.20
-------------------	--------------

Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.28 to 0.75
-----------------------	--------------

Velveteens—18 in.	0.23 to 0.30
-------------------	--------------

WOOLLENS—

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chocks	0.65 to 2.00
-------------------------------	--------------

German	1.25 to 3.00
--------	--------------

Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths	1.25 to 3.00
-------------------------------	--------------

LONG ELLS—

Scarlet, 7-10 lbs.	6.50 to 28.50
--------------------	---------------

Assorted	6.80 to 8.65
----------	--------------

Camlets—Assorted	12.00 to 3.00
------------------	---------------

Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches	12.00 to 16.00
-----------------------------	----------------

Assorted	12.00 to 16.00
----------	----------------

Orleans—Plain	8.00 to 9.50
---------------	--------------

BLANKETS—

	per pair
--	----------

8 to 12 lbs.	4.00 to 9.00
--------------	--------------

METALS—

	per picul
--	-----------

Iron—Nail Rod	4.7 to —
---------------	----------

Swedish Bar	4.80 to —
-------------	-----------

Small Round Rod	5.20 to —
-----------------	-----------

Hoop, 1 to 11/2 in.	6.40 to —
---------------------	-----------

Wire, 16/25	9.00 to —
-------------	-----------

Old Wire Rope

MISCELLANEOUS.—Manila Investments have suffered a severe decline to \$25 sellers, and it is probable that some shares might be obtained at even less than this rate. Green Island Cements have been booked at \$21½, and Electrics (old) at \$14. Fenwicks are wanted at \$46 and Steam Water-Boats at \$82. United Asbestos (Founders) have declined to \$175 with sellers. China Providents have been booked at \$9.85. Watkins are wanted at \$64.

Closing quotations are as follows:

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai..	\$125	\$595, sellers L'don, £69.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	\$8	\$27, buyers
B. Shares	\$8	\$27, buyers
Foun. Shares..	\$1	\$10, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A...	\$1	\$1, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$21, buyers
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$15	\$25, sellers
China Light & Power Co., Ltd.	\$20	\$15, sellers.
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9.85, sales
China Sugar	\$100	\$112, sales & sellers
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited..	\$500	\$500, nominal.
Philippine Tobacco Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$50, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 45, sellers
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 88, sellers
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 45, sellers
Soychée	Tls. 500	Tls. 150.
Hongkong	\$100	\$17, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$12, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$46, buyers
Green Island Cement..	\$10	\$21½, sellers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$40.
Hongkong & C. Gas ..	\$10	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$5	\$14, sales & buyers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$330, buyers
Hk. Steam Water boat Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$84, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$137, sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$240, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$87.
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$140.
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$225, sellers
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$165, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$80, sales & sellers
China Traders	\$25	\$56, sales.
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$330, sales & buys.
North China	\$25	Tls. 182½, buyers
Straits	\$20	nominal.
Union	\$50	\$386, sales
Yangtsze	\$60	\$126, buyers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$177.
Humphreys Estate..	\$10	\$12, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$30, sellers
West Point Building	\$50	\$55, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$25, sellers
Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$25, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$550, sales
Jelebu	\$5	\$1, sellers
Queen's Mines, Ltd..	250	nominal.
Olivers Mines, A....	\$5	nominal.
Do. B....	\$4	nominal.
Punjom	\$10	\$5, buyers
Do. Preference..	\$1	\$125, sellers
Raubs	18	\$9, sales & buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$6	\$36, buyers
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$45, sellers
Powell, Ltd.....	\$10	\$84.
Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$55.
Steamship Cos.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$37½, sellers
China Mutual Pref.	\$5	nominal
Do. Ordinary	\$10	\$12.
Do. Bonns	\$7.10	\$7. 10s.
Douglas' Steamship	\$5	25.
H. Canton and M...	\$50	\$46, sellers
Indo-China-S. N...	\$15	\$384, sellers
Shell Transport and Trading Co.....	\$10	\$123, buyers
Star Ferry	\$1	\$22, sellers
Tebrau Planting Co....	\$10	\$204, sellers
United Asbestos	\$5	\$11½, sellers
Do.	\$5	\$1.
Universal Trading Co., Ltd.....	\$10	\$175, sellers
Watkins, Ltd.....	\$5	\$21, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S....	\$10	\$64, buyers
	\$10	\$14, sellers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

Shanghai, 4th June (from Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report). **MARINE INSURANCE.**—China Traders shares are wanted at \$57, and Yangtsze at \$125. **FIRE INSURANCE.**—Chinas. There are local buyers at \$80 and exchange 78. **SHIPPING.**—Indo-China S. N. Co. Business has been done locally at Tls. 95 cash, 96 for June, 97½/97 for July, 96/98 for August, and 97½ for September. Shares are offering for June at 96. **SUGARS.**—The directors of the Perak Sugar Cultivation Co. have declared an interim dividend of 5 per cent., payable on the 9th current. **MINING.**—Chinese Engineering and Mining shares have been sold at 11s. 9.10/9.30 cash, 9.40 for June, 9.60 for September and 9.20 for October. **Docks, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.**—S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co. shares were sold at Tls. 257½/258½ cash, 260,262½ for June, 265, 268 and 265 for July and 268 for September. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares have been in demand, and sales were made at Tls. 277, 280,282, 295 and 300 cash, 312½ for October, and 300 for December. **LANDS.**—Shanghai Land Investment shares have been in demand, and cash sales were made at Tls. 112/117½. **INDUSTRIAL.**—Shanghai Ice shares are wanted at Tls. 26. Shanghai Pulp and Paper shares were placed at Tls. 116/120 cash, and Tls. 120/121 for July. **TUG AND CARGO BOATS.**—There is some enquiry for Shanghai Cargo Boat shares. **MISCELLANEOUS.**—Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares were placed at Tls. 287½/286 cash, 295 for July, 305 for September and 317½ for October. Shanghai Mutual Telephone shares were sold at Tls. 63, cum new issue. Business was done in Hall and Holtz shares at \$39, in Central Stores shares at Tls. 22, and in Weeks & Co. shares at \$26.

MANILA, 2nd June (from Messrs. W. A. Fitton & Co.'s Monthly Report).—We have no change to report in our Share Market since issue of Circular No. 30 on 5th ult. Transactions.—Nothing worthy of record doing in any kind of stock, nor is there likely to be any business of importance for the present. Demand.—Except at absurd rates, there is no enquiry whatever. Position is abnormal, and as things now go outlook is most unsatisfactory. Concerns paying good and steady dividends are neglected. Meeting.—The only one to advise is that of the Varadero (Cañacao Slip), half-yearly meeting of which was held 26th ult. Net profits to 31st March last were \$70,683.28, of which \$27,000 were absorbed in their usual half-yearly dividend of 6 per cent. (say 12 per cent. per annum), whilst \$43,683.28 was carried to P. & L. account, making this \$163,231.41. Reserve Fund now stands at \$74,774.47. Stock of stores of this Company is naturally heavy, but the concern is doing excellent business and using every effort to cope with changed condition of affairs here. We understand an increase of capital has been mooted; we hope to find the Company bringing forward a scheme which will include construction of dock capacity big enough to meet requirements of the larger sized vessels which will undoubtedly come here from the Pacific Coast and New York. We are advised that the first annual meeting of the Philippine Tobacco Trust and Manila Investment Co. are to be held during current month. New Company.—The Bataan Coal Mines Company has been floated with a capital of \$1,000,000.00, divided into 5,000 shares of \$200.00 each; these mines are well known to be rich in coal deposits, but have not been properly developed. The Company should do well. There is a strong directorate composed of the leading Spanish firms in the city. General.—Manila Stevedoring Company has been bought up by a private firm, and is eliminated from this issue of our circular. The International Banking Corporation and the Guaranty Trust Company, both New York concerns, are expected to commence operations during current month. They should do good business; there is ample opening for such institutions, and especially so just now when the other banks are inclined to confine their operations purely to exchange business. The Manila Times was leased for three years as from 1st instant, by a syndicate of prominent American business men. We understand a strenuous effort is to be made to popularise the Manila Exchange; a few public-spirited men could easily do this; it started out a year ago under very favourable auspices, but interest in same unfortunately lagged. We hope to find Washington Government separating political and colonial questions, as otherwise we are very much afraid existing unsettled state of business generally will continue. Until American and other capitalists find U.S. Government leaving the affairs of these islands in the hands of the gentlemen (Civil and

Military) now at the head, present stagnation of business will continue, as also the undoubtedly feeling of insecurity which permeates intending investors. These islands are probably the richest in the world, and it is unfortunate they should suffer from being made a subject for acrimonious discussion and criticism by party politicians who know little or nothing about either the country or the people. We have commented somewhat strongly, as the whole of the prosperity of these islands depends entirely on a more or less free hand being given to the powers administering the government here; until this happens, we fear existing conditions must continue, to the detriment not only of the Filipinos but of the many enterprising men anxious to see this almost virgin country properly developed. The currency, labour, mining, and land questions require immediate attention.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR ANTWERP.—Wakasa Maru (str.), Kanagawa Maru (str.).

FOR LONDON.—Chusan (str.), Stentor (str.), Alcinous (str.), Wakasa Maru (str.), Kanagawa Maru (str.).

FOR LIVERPOOL.—Yangtsze (str.).

FOR MARSEILLE.—Salasie (str.), Wakasa Maru (str.), Malaya (str.), Kanagawa Maru (str.), Strassburg (str.).

FOR BREMEN.—Hamburg (str.), Suevia (str.).

FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Sambia (str.), Suevia (str.), Strassburg (str.), Silesia (str.), C. Ferd. Laeiss (str.), Wurzburg (str.), Malaya (str.).

FOR TRIESTE.—Gisela (str.).

FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—Iyo Maru (str.), Kinshiu Maru (str.), Olympia (str.).

FOR VANCOUVER.—Empress of India (str.), Tartar (str.).

FOR NEW YORK.—Spithead (str.), Satsuma (str.), Merionethshire (str.).

FOR PORTLAND (Or.).—Indrasamha (str.).

FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—Kumano Maru (str.), Eastern (str.), Chingtu (str.).

FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.—Kagoshima Maru (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

May—

7. Ailsa Craig, British str., from Moji.
7. Chingtu, British str., from Sydney.
7. Chwnshan, British str., from Saigon.
7. Devawongse, German str., from Bangkok.
7. Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
7. Hongwan I, British str., from Straits.
7. Hangsan, British str., from Shanghai.
7. Iyo Maru, Japanese str., from Shanghai.
7. Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.
7. Pronto, Norwegian str., from Haiphong.
7. Sambia, German str., from Hamburg.
7. Woosung, British str., from Canton.
8. Agamemnon, British str., from Shanghai.
8. Esang, British str., from Newchwang.
8. Hailan, French str., from Pahoi.
8. Indrasamha, British str., from Singapore.
8. Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
8. Machew, German str., from Bangkok.
8. Prima, Norwegian str., from Illoilo.
8. Rajaburi, German str., from Bangkok.
8. Taishun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
8. Thales, British str., from Swatow.
9. Amoy, German str., from Newchwang.
9. Bencleuch, British str., from London.
9. Bygdo, Norwegian str., from Chefoo.
9. Glenturret, British str., from London.
9. Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., from Anping.
9. Main, German str., from Bremerhaven.
9. Mathilde, German str., from Hoihow.
9. Perla, British str., from Manila.
9. Petrarch, German str., from Saigon.
9. Rabi, British str., from Manila.
9. Shirley, British str., from Kutchinotzu.
9. Yuensang, British str., from Canton.
10. Anping, Chinese str., from Canton.
10. Benlomond, British str., from Foochow.
10. Chunsang, British str., from Tongku.
10. Clive, British str., from Taku.
10. Foochow, British str., from Saigon.

10. *Hue*, French str., from Haiphong.
 10. *Kweiyang*, British str., from Canton.
 10. *La Porte*, British str., from Moji.
 10. *Malacca*, British str., from London.
 10. *Pakhoi*, British str., from Cebu.
 10. *Petchaburi*, German str., from Bangkok.
 10. *Silesia*, German str., from Hamburg.
 10. *Szechuen*, British str., from Chinkiang.
 10. *Tingsang*, British str., from Hongay.
 11. *Belfast*, British barque, from Cardiff.
 11. *Benledi*, British str., from Saigon.
 11. *Dencalion*, British str., from Shanghai.
 11. *Endymion*, British cruiser, from Nagasaki.
 11. *Eros*, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
 11. *Idomeneus*, British str., from Liverpool.
 11. *Kwangse*, British str., from Shanghai.
 11. *Mgrisang*, British str., from Sandakan.
 11. *Phra C. C. Klae*, Ger. str., from Bangkok.
 11. *Preussen*, German str., from Yokohama.
 11. *Prins Heinrich*, Ger str., from Hamburg.
 11. *Thea*, German str., from Haiphong.
 12. *Chowtai*, German str., from Bangkok.
 12. *Gisela*, Austrian str., from Kobe.
 12. *Hikosan Maru*, Jap. str., from K'notzu.
 12. *Jave*, British str., from Yokchama.
 12. *Liss*, Swedish str., from Hamburg.
 12. *Hangsang*, British str., from Canton.
 12. *Loongmoon*, German str., from Canton.
 12. *Dynomene*, British ship, from Cardiff.
 13. *Apenrade*, German str., from Hoihow.
 13. *Ariake Maru*, Jap. str., from Moji.
 13. *Borg*, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
 13. *C. Diederichsen*, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 13. *Grosvener*, British barque, from Mauritius.
 13. *Haiching*, British str., from Coast Ports.
 13. *Hongmoh*, British str., from Singapore.
 13. *Hiroshima Maru*, Jap. str., from Singapore.
 13. *Jelunga*, British str., from Bombay.
 13. *Kriemhild*, Norw. ship, from Carnavon.
 13. *Maria Valeria*, Austrian str., from Trieste.
 13. *Maria*, Austrian str., from Mororan.
 13. *Sayoa*, German str., from Moji.
 13. *Taisang*, British str., from Shanghai.
 13. *Trym*, Norwegian str., from Newchwang.
 14. *Anping Maru*, Jap. str., from Coast Ports.
 14. *Hanoi*, French str., from Haiphong.
 14. *Nippon Maru*, Jap. str., from S. Francisco.
 14. *Sishan*, British str., from Saigon.
 14. *Sullberg*, German str., from Newchwang.
 14. *Sydney*, French str., from Marseilles.
 15. *Dott*, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
 15. *Murani*, British str., from Calcutta.
 15. *Salazie*, French str., from Marseilles.
 15. *Thales*, British str., from Swatow.
 15. *Wakasa Maru*, Jap. str., from Yokohama.

May—DEPARTURES.

7. *Apenrade*, German str., for Haiphong.
 7. *Chupra*, British str., for Amoy.
 7. *Doric*, British str., for San Francisco.
 7. *Phra C. Klae*, German str., for Bangkok.
 7. *Prosper*, Norwegian str., for Sarawak.
 7. *Seong Leong*, British str., for Amoy.
 7. *Sumatra*, British str., for Europe.
 8. *Atholl*, British str., for Shanghai.
 8. *Changaha*, British str., for Australia.
 8. *Cheangchew*, British str., for Amoy.
 8. *Daijin Maru*, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 8. *Hoihao*, French str., for Hoihow.
 8. *Hongwan I*, British str., for Amoy.
 8. *Independent*, German str., for Chefoo.
 8. *Macduff*, British str., for New York.
 8. *Michael Jebsen*, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
 9. *Esang*, British str., for Canton.
 9. *Kwanglee*, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 9. *Loongmoon*, German str., for Canton.
 9. *Taishun*, Chinese str., for Canton.
 10. *Agamemnon*, British str., for London.
 10. *Ailes Craig*, British str., for Moji.
 10. *Andromeda*, British str., for S. Francisco.
 10. *Bjorn*, Norwegian str., for Swatow.
 10. *Bygde*, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 10. *Chingtu*, British str., for Kobe.
 10. *Haitan*, British str., for Coast Ports.
 10. *Hinsang*, British str., for Singapore.
 10. *Main*, German transport, for Kiaochan.
 10. *Perla*, British str., for Manila.
 10. *Phra Nang*, German str., for Bangkok.
 10. *Renmoreshire*, British str., for Shanghai.
 10. *Rosetta Maru*, Japanese str., for Manila.
 10. *Simongan*, Dutch str., for Chefoo.
 10. *Woodring*, British str., for Shanghai.
 11. *Winglou*, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 11. *Wenlou*, British str., for London.
 11. *Charthouse*, British str., for Moji.
 11. *Clive*, British str., for Singapore.
 11. *Emma Luyken*, German str., for Swatow.
 11. *Hasian*, French str., for Hoihow.

11. *Kweiyang*, British str., for Swatow.
 11. *Loosok*, German str., for Bangkok.
 11. *Maldzura Maru*, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 11. *Prima*, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
 11. *Repton*, British str., for Moji.
 11. *Sambia*, German str., for Yokohama.
 11. *Szechuen*, British str., for Canton.
 11. *Thales*, British str., for Swatow.
 12. *Chinkiang*, British str., for Amoy.
 12. *Chwnshan*, British str., for Swatow.
 12. *Deucalion*, British str., for London.
 12. *Jacob Diederichsen*, Ger. str., for Iloilo.
 12. *Loongsang*, British str., for Manila.
 12. *Malacca*, British str., for Shanghai.
 12. *Preussen*, German str., for Europe.
 12. *Prinz Heinrich*, Ger. str., for Shanghai.
 12. *Shirley*, British str., for Kutchinotzu.
 12. *Silesia*, German str., for Shanghai.
 12. *Whampoa*, British str., for Shanghai.
 13. *Arnold Luyken*, German str., for Saigon.
 13. *Bormida*, Italian str., for Bombay.
 13. *Catherine Apear*, British str., for Calcutta.
 13. *Hue*, French str., for Kwouy-chauwan.
 13. *Idomeneus*, British str., for Shanghai.
 13. *Java*, British str., for London.
 13. *Mathilde*, German str., for Haiphong.
 13. *Tingsang*, British str., for Hongay.
 14. *Bencleuch*, British str., for Nagasaki.
 14. *Fausang*, British str., for Tientsin.
 14. *Frithjof*, Norwegian str., for Haiphong.
 14. *Hangsang*, British str., for Shanghai.
 14. *Holstein*, German str., for Swatow.
 14. *Indrasamha*, British str., for Portland.
 14. *Kohsichang*, German str., for Bangkok.
 14. *Loongmoon*, German str., for Shanghai.
 14. *Machew*, German str., for Bangkok.
 14. *Nenchang*, British str., for Amoy.
 14. *Rubi*, British str., for Manila.
 14. *Sydney*, French str., for Shanghai.
 14. *Taishun*, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 15. *Amoy*, German str., for Newchwang.
 15. *Haiching*, British str., for Coast Ports.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED:

Per *Catherine Apear*, from Calcutta, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Chater, Mr. and Mrs. Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. Tweeddale, Messrs. E. C. Cunningham and A. G. Halifax.

Per *Sundatr*, for Hongkong, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. O. F. Malcolm, Messrs. C. H. Ross and A. Bastien; for Singapore, Mr. Tandy; for Colombo, Mr. E. C. Farley; for Aden, Mr. R. M. Bewick; for London, Mr. W. C. Cross; for London, from Kobe, Mr. R. Senior.

Per *Rosetta Maru*, from Manila, Mrs. Coornay, Major and Mrs. Potts, Major and Mrs. White, Mr. and Mrs. Crego, Mr. and Mrs. Morita, Mr. and Mrs. Muraoka, Col. Heigmann, Comdr. Marix, Capt. Moore, Dr. D. B. Whey, Mrs. Toyo Jodai, Misses Eto, Tsune Yamamoto and Moriyama, Messrs. McWillie, Russell, E. Sprungli, Orrell, Middleton, Williams, Wm. Rigney, Ohtsu, T. Yamaguchi and T. Shirakura.

Per *Hangsang*, from Shanghai, Mr. Solterbeck.

Per *Chingtu*, from Sydney, Mr. and Mrs. F. Glass and Master T. Glass and Messrs. Brayshaw and Gerard.

Per *Huitan*, from Foochow, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Pay, Mrs. Kartecliner, Messrs. Richardson, Cameron, Knight, Cruz, Wadnan, Falk and J. and L. Yap.

Per *Rosetta Maru*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Morita, Mr. and Mrs. Crego, Mr. and Mrs. Murao, Mrs. Toyo Jodai, Mrs. Wooney, Major and Mrs. Potts, Major and Mrs. White, Miss Oorio, Miss Yamamoto, Colonel Heizmann, Dr. D. B. Willy, Capt. Moore, Capt. Marix, Messrs. E. Sprungli, M. Willer, Orrell, O. Middleton, Ohtsu, Williams, Raffell and Rigney.

Per *Pronto*, from Haiphong, &c., Mr. Brunschwieg.

Per *Iyo Maru*, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Field and child, Mr. and Mrs. Young and child, Capt. E. Pratt, Messrs. D. Keenan, J. J. Cornel, Andytate, J. L. May and G. Martire.

Per *Perla*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Aitkin, Messrs. H. R. and W. A. Pierce, Louis Odberg and B. Lante.

Per *Rubi*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Jenks, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Spindie, Mrs. Catalina Pasenal, Mrs. C. C. Yates, Messrs. R. Wells, A. C. Durand, A. Franco, J. Harburg, S. E. Apear and E. Franco.

Per *Yuensang*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Domergue, Miss Lillian White, Measrs. P. Quinn, P. G. L. V. and J. Amador, F. Haydon, J. Pollard, J. J. Solhang and G. C. Synder.

Per *Pakhoi*, from Cebu, Mr. J. H. Brach.

Per *Malacca*, from London, &c., Lieut. Banton, R.E.

Per *Clive*, from Taku, Lieut. Elkan, Sub-Lieut. Lucas, R.N., and Asst. Paymaster Solfeet.

Per *Kwangse*, from Shanghai, &c., Mrs. Garrick.

Per *Preussen*, from Yokohama, &c., Mrs. K. Lutscher, Mr. and Mrs. F. Kuhn, Miss Lescant, Capt. W. Taylor, Mr. Xaver Drolze and son, Messrs. George Mudge, O. Foost, H. Bonchoux, Ch. Sespland, H. Larsen, Daren, F. Spieler and M. Geysmar.

Per *Prins Heinrich*, from Hamburg, for Hongkong, Mrs. Buchwald and children, Mrs. T. Peche, Baron von Bosch, Measrs. O. Laermann, F. W. Newson, F. Happach, M. G. Miguel, Th. Grupe, V. Belmeyer, H. Delkamp and W. Jones. In transit—Mrs. Droskowski and child, Mrs. E. Bowman, Mrs. K. Lewis, Misses Eisner, Wallentowitz and Hadlen, Rev. P. Bellenghi, Lieut. von Ranch, Measrs. T. A. McGill, E. Schüter, E. Groppe, F. Kramer, R. Jungjohann, G. de Lalande, E. A. Culpeck, Kastellijn and Tetsu Suhaki.

Per *Jaro*, from Yokohama, Mrs. Forbes and Miss Polson.

DEPARTED.

From Hongkong, for San Francisco, &c., Mr. and Mrs. T. I. Rose, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Boyd, Mr. and Mrs. L. Crego, Mrs. A. S. C. Manners, Lieut. R. F. A. Butterworth, R.E. Col. Heizman, Measrs. J. D. Smart, M. Krause, Geo. Williams, T. A. Hurley, and E. Kolkenbeck; for Yokohama, Major and Mrs. Potts, U.S.A., Messrs. J. Orange, D. H. Cameron, H. H. Stein and W. B. White; for Nagasaki, Miss Tennyson and Mr. J. H. Maclehouse; for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Atkinson, Miss F. Horley, Capt. Marix, Messrs. J. P. McCoy, J. Kerr, A. Neil, J. McDuff, F. P. Hudson, F. Cohen, J. Smith, Geo. Payne, O. Middleton, W. Orrell, Chas. H. Williams, M. B. Russell and W. Pyne; for Amoy, Mr. H. P. White.

Per *Rosetta Maru*, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Burke and child, Mrs. M. B. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Field and child, Mr. and Mrs. Ben G. Pay, Mrs. M. Ogawa, Mrs. R. Yokowo, Mrs. K. Minematsu, Mr. and Mrs. Sugimoto, Misses Y. Hirasuna, M. Nagamura, N. Mawatari, T. Murayama, K. Yeguchi and M. Sakano, Messrs. H. L. Noble, Wm. D. Graham, G. A. Main, J. C. Dufrane, F. L. May, A. L. B. Utne, Luis Cornel, G. M. Lack, E. Brunschwieg, F. G. Vergara, F. B. Barbara and son, Messrs. I. Rullan, N. Hirasuna, S. Ogawa and S. Hayada.

Per *Loongsang*, for Manila, Messrs. J. V. Colclough and James Timochy.

Per *Preussen*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. O. F. Malcolm, Mr. A. Richard and child, Messrs. Fred. M. Bruce and J. A. Thomas; for Genoa, Messrs. W. Einstmann, G. Hoygen, E. Sprungli and Julius Roeseler; for Antwerp, Capt. E. Damster; from Japan; for Singapore, Mrs. I. Nagatoya; for Genoa, Mrs. I. Grauert and child, Messrs. Haus Roosen, Heinrich, H. Häusler, A. W. Motschmann and Richard Voss; for Bremen, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Wilgaard; from Shanghai, for Suez, Mr. and Mrs. I. Pons, Messrs. F. Pons and F. Arbore; for Port Said, Mrs. A. St. Neveu and Mrs. E. Ponarina; for Naples, Mr. Mauze; for Genoa, Lieuts. Reymann and Schulte, Capt. Gadeke, Kachwallick, Kohler and Meyer, Miss H. Massay and Mr. H. Kaiser; for Southampton, Miss A. L. Cousins and Master E. W. Gillison; for Bremen, Mrs. G. Kupp and child.

Per *Prins Heinrich*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Jenks, Mrs. C. C. Yates, Mrs. Legner, Messrs. Alex. MacWille, A. C. Preston, R. Wells, F. Materna, A. C. Durand, A. Burgoine, K. Houghton and A. Michael; for Nagasaki, Major and Mrs. H. K. White; for Kobe, Messrs. A. Kahn and A. Iwaji; for Yokohama, Miss R. D. Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Schell, Mr. G. G. Gouverneur and Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Schell.

Printed and published by ALFRED CUNNINGHAM for the Concerned, at 14, Des Voeux Road, Central, City of Victoria, Hongkong.
 London Office: 181, Fleet Street, E.C.